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Eastleigh end season with loss

Match report on page 6

KOEMAN'S TOP-FOUR BELIEF

Saints boss: We might not be Leicester, but we can make Champions League SEE PAGE 3



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SAINTS SPOTLIGHT



Top-four finish for Saints is 'realistic'

Koeman says flourishing Foxes will not add more pressure on team

RONALD KOEMAN has insisted that Leicester's success this season does not increase the pressure for further progress at Saints, but believes a top-four finish can still be achieved in the near future.

Up until this season it was almost unthinkable that a club from outside the traditional top four or five would break into the Champions League spots, let alone win the title. However, Leicester have given hope to clubs across the country, with proof you can compete despite far smaller financial resources.

Their story is a one-off though, and Koeman feels it shouldn't be used as a yardstick for other clubs like Saints.

He said: "We have enough pressure in Southampton because what we showed last year already with Pochettino in the first season and also this season we have shown we are a stable club and can fight for more than the middle of the table."

"But it is difficult because everyone knows it has to be perfect to win the title in the Premier League."

"You need no European football, no injuries in important players, need the big teams to struggle a little bit and that happened this year but it doesn't happen every season."

Koeman does though believe talk of a potential top-four finish in the future is realistic for Saints.

"It is more normal and an achievement for a club like Southampton," he insisted.

Koeman thinks Saints need to win all of their three remaining games – against Man City at St Mary's this weekend, and then away to Tottenham and at home to Crystal Palace – to qualify for Europe this season.

However, he is adamant it has been a good campaign no matter whether they make it or not.

"Frustrated, not," he said of this season. "Because we have made several mistakes in our away games that we need three wins out of Man City home, Tottenham away and Crystal Palace home and that is difficult. It is possible though."



Graziano Pelle celebrates after scoring against Newcastle. Could he be putting the goals away against Europe's best?

"If we finish on a good way and finishing after the last game against Crystal Palace at home then we can be proud again about this second season."

"We had some good football, some good wins at home."

"Maybe we have lost too many points away from home but we have some big games still to play, the first

this Sunday against Manchester City."

"It's good to show that we still are strong and we show the spirit and belief to finish on a good way."

Koeman hopes for more cups

RONALD KOEMAN is hoping it won't be another 40 years before Saints are celebrating a major piece of silverware.

The Saints boss is set to meet the 1976 FA Cup winning squad at St Mary's on Sunday as they celebrate the 40th anniversary of the greatest day in the club's history.

It is somewhat of a surprise that a club of Saints' stature has not won a major trophy since, and something Koeman is acutely aware of.

"It's important because it's history for the club, and of course what we like to do is also one time win a title like a cup," he insisted.

"We didn't still so far and maybe next season we get a little bit more luck in the draws in the cup and we can achieve something special for the club what they did 40 years ago."

"It's very nice for the club, the people and the fans because they make history."

"People and players who make history are always part of the club."

Silva out for Saints clash

MANCHESTER CITY will be without playmaker David Silva for the next two to three weeks with the hamstring injury suffered in the midweek Champions League clash with Real Madrid.

That rules the Spaniard, pictured, out of this Sunday's Barclays Premier League trip to Southampton as well as next Wednesday's semi-final second leg against Real at the Bernabeu.

Midfielder Yaya Toure is back in training after a thigh injury but will not feature this weekend while forward Samir Nasri has recovered from a muscle problem and will be in the squad at St Mary's.



Provisional squad: Hart, Caballero, Zabaleta, Sagna, Kompany, Otamendi, Mangala, Demichelis, Kolarov, Clichy, Fernando, Fernandinho, Delph, Nasri, De Bruyne, Sterling, Navas, Aguero, Iheanacho, Bony.

SAINTS SPOTLIGHT

Koeman excited for a Pep talk next season

But Saints boss says Pellegrini is 'very respectful'

RONALD KOEMAN is looking forward to meeting up with old friend Pep Guardiola when Saints take on Manchester City next season, but has admitted his respect for current Blues boss Manuel Pellegrini.

Koeman played alongside Guardiola at Barcelona, and the pair forged a strong bond.

They remain friends and will come head-to-head as managers when Saints face City in the top flight next season when the Spaniard has taken over from Pellegrini.

Koeman said: "Yes, very good friends. I didn't coach him, I just coached him on the pitch."

"I played behind him on the pitch. He was young and he needed to know the right directions."

"It will be nice because we know each other very well and it is always nice to meet one of your friends when you play against him."

"If you analyse how he is and was coaching Barcelona and how he tried to play football with Bayern Munich I think maybe they changed the way they were playing but that is in detail."

City visit St Mary's this weekend with Pellegrini still in charge, and City in the semi-finals of the Champions League with a second leg tie at Real Madrid to come next week.

Koeman has great respect for his Chilean counterpart, who has handled his upcoming departure with incredible grace, and said: "To know exactly you need to see how that manager is working in his team and his club but from outside I think he is a very respectful manager."

"He was coaching big teams like Real Madrid and he has been the manager in City in the past couple of years and has been successful – maybe he can win the Champions League."

"I think he is a manager who I like as a football player."

"He is always really respectful, never shouting, he's trying to play good football with his team which is difficult."

"He's changed a lot and there is a lot of pressure but I think he is one of the best coaches in Europe."

"In my opinion he is a very respectful manager."



Manchester City's next manager Pep Guardiola and, inset, his friend and Saints boss Ronald Koeman

He continued: "I don't see him in a dressing room, I don't see him in meetings before the game but what I see is from the distance."

"What I see when we play City how he is trying to give his team the

right direction and I think he is very good."

Pellegrini is facing the possibility of winning the Champions League but still getting sacked, and Koeman shrugged: "It's the reality in football

that they made that decision. I don't know why but it's football and it hasn't been the first time."

"It's the future of the club and the people involved to make those kind of decisions."



Schedule frustration for City

MANCHESTER City boss Manuel Pellegrini is incredulous over why his team have to play three days before Wednesday's Champions League semi-final at Real Madrid.

Pellegrini believes the scheduling of his side's Barclays Premier League game at Southampton at 4.30pm on Sunday hampers their hopes of reaching the final of Europe's leading club competition.

Real will have four days to prepare for the clash at the Bernabeu after their La Liga game at Real Sociedad on Saturday and Pellegrini thinks City's game should have been brought forward to correspond.

The club made inquiries as to whether that was possible, but it is understood an official request was not submitted as it was felt it would be unlikely to succeed for a televised fixture.

"For me it is unbelievable," said Pellegrini, whose side will have all to play for in Spain after a goalless draw in the first leg at the Etihad Stadium. "If you see other leagues, including Italy, the



City's Manuel Pellegrini

teams that play Champions League play their domestic games on a Friday.

"We are representing England and I think it's important not to give any advantage to the other team."

It is the second time this season City have been frustrated by fixture scheduling ahead of a European game.

The first leg of their last-16 tie at Dynamo Kiev came three days after their FA Cup fifth-round clash at Chelsea.

The Chilean said: "In the Premier League, I don't understand why, when having so many games, and they all have the same interest, we can't play one day before to have 24 hours (more rest)."

"We knew we had to play eight games in 30 days. It is a lot of games for this squad."

"But the best way to make a good game on Wednesday is to win on Sunday and have trust in the performance of different players."

Everton 2 Cherries 1

Rare Toffees win delivers Cherries' third straight loss

Growing opposition mounts in a rare victory at home

LEFT-BACK Leighton Baines' first goal since November 2014 secured Everton's first home league victory since early February but it was not enough to prevent growing opposition to Roberto Martinez's continued reign as manager.

A plane flying the banner 'Roberto Must Go' was followed by a handful of fans in the Gladys Street End holding up 'Martinez Out' signs and chanting 'Get out of our club' at the end of the 2-1 win.

Only five home league wins in the last 12 months tells its own story and it is unlikely Baines' goal, after Marc Pugh had cancelled out Tom Cleverley's strike inside the opening 10 minutes, will ease the pressure.

Despite his easy-going appearance, Martinez has a stubborn streak and if his stint at Goodison Park is coming to an end he is determined to go out on his own terms.

The decision to give Oumar Niasse a Premier League debut ahead of 25-goal leading scorer Romelu Lukaku was a bold one which smacked of sticking two fingers up at his critics.

Prior to his full debut, Niasse had played just 29 minutes of football since December 10, his last match for Lokomotiv Moscow before a £13.5 million January move to Goodison Park.

Just a fortnight ago, Martinez had said it would be a "bonus" if he played again for them this season because of his fitness levels but on this evidence he should change that assessment to "unthinkable" as he looked well off the pace.

Martinez's decision to recall goal-keeper Tim Howard, who had not played since January 24, and leaves for Colorado Rapids in the summer, for his penultimate Goodison farewell, also did not impress fans.

The American, at least, performed well enough although Pugh's ninth-minute equaliser caught enough of his body before creeping over the line to raise questions among his detractors.

It was no surprise the visitors pegged Everton back, or did it so quickly, as confidence at home has been fragile and even Cleverley's strike two minutes earlier – incredibly from Ross Barkley's first assist of 2016 – failed to settle nerves.



Everton's Matthew Pennington (left) and Bournemouth's Matt Ritchie battle for the ball.



Everton's Leighton Baines celebrates scoring his side's second goal of the game.

The midfielder's finish was a smart one but so was Pugh's, who swept home Callum Wilson's cross despite Everton complaining the striker had nudged 21-year-old Matthew Pennington, making his Premier League debut, in the back in winning the ball out wide.

Goodison's atmosphere was less toxic than expected but still surreal as 20 minutes in, Bournemouth fans sang 'Sacked in the morning' to Martinez and pockets of the home crowd applauded.

A minute before half-time, Niasse's audacious backheel drifted wide of the far post and, somewhat coincidentally considering his performance, moments later the protest plane flew overhead.

Just when it seemed the day could not get any more odd the 35-year-old, Tony Hibbert replaced Muhammed Besic at half-time.

Josh King threatened with two efforts but the hosts started to look more threatening.

That was partly because the failed

Niasse experiment was ended on the hour with Lukaku sent on to add some firepower.

However, it was winger Aaron Lennon who provided the breakthrough as his run and cross in the 64th minute was rammed home at the far post by Baines.

Bournemouth substitute Benik Afobe had two efforts to level things up, the first blocked by Pennington, and such has been their form at home, it was a surprise Everton did not concede before the end.

Magpies on move

NEWCASTLE 1 CRYSTAL PALACE 0

ANDROS Townsend's stunning free-kick dragged Newcastle out of the Barclays Premier League relegation zone as Rafael Benitez's rescue mission gathered pace with a 1-0 win over Crystal Palace.

The £12 million January signing struck with 58 minutes gone – his third goal in five games – to give the home side a precious lead, but it took a 70th-minute penalty saved by Karl Darlow to deny Magpies old boy Yohan Cabaye an equaliser.

Victory, coupled with Sunderland's draw at Stoke, eased Newcastle out of the bottom three ahead of Norwich's trip to Arsenal and left the bulk of a crowd of 52,107 dreaming of a great escape with just two games remaining.

The visitors targeted makeshift right-back Vurnon Anita from the first whistle with Yannick Bolasie employed as tormentor in chief, and Chancel Mbemba's efforts to help out his team-mate resulted in an early booking.

Jason Puncheon volleyed across goal after meeting Pape Souare's eight-minute cross and it took a fine challenge by Jamaal Lascelles to deny Connor Wickham a clear run at goal three minutes later.

Wijnaldum went close five minutes after the restart when he turned past Cabaye from Mbemba's pass, but saw his shot blocked by Damien Delaney, and Hennessey fielded Townsend's 55th-minute effort with little difficulty.

But the former Tottenham midfielder broke the deadlock in style three minutes later when, after being fouled by Scott Dann, he curled a superb free-kick past Hennessey.

Palace fought for a way back as an increasingly nervous Newcastle dropped deeper in an attempt to preserve their lead, and the Eagles got their chance when they were awarded a penalty for handball by Moussa Sissoko as he challenged Scott Dann with 20 minutes remaining.

However, Darlow dived to his left to keep out Cabaye's effort as St James' breathed a collective sigh of relief.



Andros Townsend celebrates his goal

goals

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Woking 2 Eastleigh 1

Heartbreak for Spitfires as final game ends in defeat

EASTLEIGH'S season ended in heartbreak as they lost their final game of a rollercoaster National League campaign 2-1 at Woking.

On an afternoon when everything went against them, play-off rivals Braintree and Tranmere both won leaving the Spitfires to settle for a disappointing seventh placed finish.

Braintree - 3-0 winners over Altrincham - claimed fifth spot, leaving Eastleigh and Tranmere to do it all again next season, writes Wendy Gee.

Eastleigh were dealt another pre match blow when Jamie Turley (knee) joined James Constable, Luke Coulson and Andy Drury on the injury list for this must-win game.

Ross Lafayette started up front alongside Matt Tubbs having returned this week from four months on loan at Aldershot.

Woking had the first glimmer of a chance five minutes in when their player of the season John Goddard cut inside and fired wide of Ross Flitney's right-hand post.

The Spitfires raised their game and, after Matty Fanimo's blocked shot had gone out for a corner, the Spitfires had the ball in the net through Matt Tubbs. It would have been the Portsmouth loanee's first goal from open play since arriving in early February but, typically of his luck in an Eastleigh shirt, the linesman's flag was up.

The visitors' frustration grew when the flat was raised again as Tubbs burst rough, but there was worse, far worse, to come for the Spitfires who, from a position of relative comfort, suddenly found themselves two goals down.

Woking's first, on 13 minutes, was a total disaster for Chris Todd's men as a driven cross by former Havant left-back Chris Arthur eluded everyone, including Flitney before being bundled home by Keiron Murtagh amid a mad scramble on the line.

With the game invitingly open, the Cards doubled their advantage less than three minutes later as the game swung quickly from one end to the other.

Jai Reason's penalty appeal for handball went unheeded, Woking broke and, Giuseppe Sole had gone down under Michael Green's challenge, there was another unsightly mess in the Eastleigh defence.

It was all too easy for the Cards as Matthew Robinson crossed from the right, and Goddard swept the ball home.

Just when it looked as if the afternoon couldn't get any worse for the Spitfires, news filtered through that their two rivals for the fourth and last play-off spots, Braintree and Tranmere, were both winning.

Flitney's sharp reaction prevented Sole getting a third for Woking on 28 minutes, while both Murtagh and Goddard shot narrowly wide before half-time.



Matt Tubbs scored Eastleigh's only goal.

In between, the chances were all

Eastleigh's, but Lafayette's cleverly worked shot was held by keeper Jake Cole, Tubbs' close range effort from Yemi Odubade's cross was blocked at point-blank range and Green's delivery into the six-yard box was scrambled clear.

Half-time: Woking 2 Eastleigh 0
Eastleigh went 3-4-3 after the break with skipper and defender Paul Reid making way for winger Lee Cook.

Cook's first contribution was a deep delivery to the back stick but the sliding Odubade could not keep his shot

down.

With 58 minutes gone, Todd made another change with Jack Midson taking over wide right duties from Fanimo.

As the hectic end to end action continued, Midson headed over and Tubbs flung himself at another Cook cross, but just failed to connect.

Woking, though, looked menacing every time they burst forward and there was relief for the yellow shirted visitors when Sole's 66 minutes 'goal' was ruled off-side.

Eastleigh's players were not to

know it but, by the time they mustered a 74th minute reply, Braintree has strengthened their grip on fifth spot with another goal against lowly Altrincham.

It was Tubbs who scored it, getting the final connection on a cracking Payne strike from the right edge of the area to divert the ball past Cole.

There were chances at both ends in a barnstorming finish with scrambles at both ends and Flitney pulling off a smart save to deny Woking sub Danny Carr.

Important points near drop

STOKE 1 SUNDERLAND 1

JERMAIN Defoe scored an injury-time penalty to earn Sunderland a potentially priceless point at Stoke.

The Potters looked on course for victory after Marko Arnautovic gave them the lead five minutes into the second half but Defoe made it 1-1 having won the spot-kick himself.

Newcastle's victory over Crystal Palace meant the draw was not enough to prevent Sunderland dropping back into the bottom three but it was more than they looked like getting for 90 minutes.

Mark Hughes would have been pleased with Stoke's response to conceding four goals in each of their last three games but their winless run extended to five matches.

WATFORD 3 ASTON VILLA 2

TROY Deeney grabbed two late goals to condemn Aston Villa to a club-record 11th straight defeat.

Deeney, a boyhood Birmingham fan, stuck the knife into the team he loves to score against more than any other as Watford ran out 3-2 winners.



Watford's Ben Watson (left) and Aston Villa's Jordan Ayew

Relegated Villa were leading with just five seconds of normal time remaining thanks to goals from Ciaran Clark and Jordan Ayew, either side of Almen Abdi's free-kick.

But the beleaguered midlanders, who had Aly Cissokho sent off with 15 minutes left, could not hold out as Deeney's double piled on the agony.

WEST BROM 0 WEST HAM 3

WEST Ham sent out a European warning as they powered into fifth with an impressive win at West Brom.

Mark Noble's double and Cheikhou Kouyate's strike gave the Hammers a 3-0 victory, which sent them above Manchester United on goal difference in the Barclays Premier League.

United will retake fifth spot if they avoid defeat against champions-elect Leicester on Sunday but the Hammers kept up the pressure and they have lost just once in their last 13 games in all competitions.

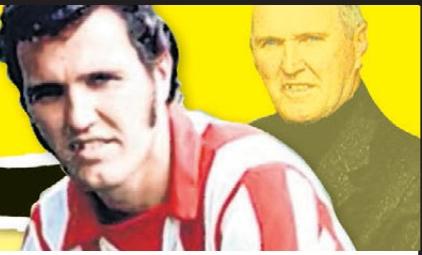
They face United in their final game at Upton Park on May 10, in what is set to become a winner-takes-all clash.

Paine's World

The Saints legend's

EXCLUSIVE

column on all things football



Arsenal need to spend – and make progress

THINGS looked bright for the Gunners in the summer as goalkeeper Petr Cech was signed from Chelsea for a bargain £11m, but as the season went on, fans and pundits alike began to criticise Wenger's decision not to strengthen in any other areas.

Key players such as Cazorla, Wilshere, Rosicky, Alexis and Oxlade-Chamberlain all suffered injuries ruling them out for large parts of the campaign. Injuries are a part of football, but it seems to me that Arsenal are the victim of too many occasions.

According to injuryleague.com, Arsenal players have been injured for a total of 227 weeks between them this season. Since August 2002, Arsenal have endured 989 injuries, more than any other club.

Few can say that Arsenal lack the quality to be champions. A team cannot get much better than the likes of Mesut Ozil, Alexis Sanchez and Santi Cazorla.

But the players often do not seem to play to their full potential.

The squad plays in a stadium filled with corporate business every week as the passionate fans are priced out of going to the games by absurd ticket prices. The players lack the motivation to be champions.

That said, it is surely not the fans' fault that Arsenal have faltered and there is one man on everybody's mind. Arsene Wenger.

Wenger has done wonders for the club; there is absolutely no denying it. Six FA cups, three Premier League titles, including a whole season unbeaten, gives Wenger a legendary status in North London.

Wenger changed Arsenal from being a "boring club" to one that plays beautiful football and is admired all around the world. But times have changed.

Arsenal fans are about to witness their worst nightmare and finish behind arch rivals Tottenham Hotspur for the first time in 20 years. Spurs could rub salt in the wounds of the Gunners by perhaps winning the title this season, too.

Wenger changed the dynamics of Arsenal football club.

The man was completely unknown before joining the club in 1996.

They built a new stadium and a new training ground under Wenger and it would have been impossible without him. But Wenger's style seems to be outdated. Arsenal fans are fed up with top four finishes and are eager for something more and perhaps something new.

"Fourth place is not a trophy" is a famous Arsenal fan saying, aimed towards Arsene Wenger. In my opinion, it is completely understandable to feel the frustration of the fans and to want change after so many years



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger is under pressure again after another mediocre season

of not moving forward.

Leicester in one year have transformed themselves from relegation strugglers to Premier League title challengers. Wenger has been unable to jump from 4th to 1st in the past 12 years.

We cannot disrespect the man who has done so much for the club but perhaps it is time for Wenger to move on himself and leave the club as a legend.

Banners with the words "Arsene, thanks for the memories but it's time to say goodbye" have been seen many times in the Arsenal away end over the past few seasons.

Arsenal are renowned for being stubborn in the transfer market and rarely spending

the money that the likes of Manchester City and Chelsea do every season. It is ironic that Walcott and Giroud earn hundreds of thousands each week because their performances are often poor.

Wenger has said that he "likes to honour his contract" and therefore looks as though he will be staying at Arsenal for another year.

Arsenal must sign a leader this summer, someone who can lift the team and can inspire the rest of the squad.

They desperately need a new centre back as both Mertesacker and Gabriel have not looked good enough for a team that should be competing for the title.

The Gunners also need one or two new midfielders with some real flair and passion.

And finally, without a doubt, they need a new striker as Walcott and Giroud are simply not good enough and Welbeck's record is not even close to that of Harry Kane, Jamie Vardy or Sergio Aguero.

It is unlikely that global stars will want to join Arsenal during such difficult times but if they can lure the likes of Aubameyang to the Emirates, next season could be very different.

Arsenal must spend this summer and forget this terrible season and begin to move on to better things.

Non league FOOTBALL



Gareth Barfoot



Barfoot to leave champions Salisbury

FORMER AFC Totton and Eastleigh goalkeeper Gareth Barfoot is set to leave promoted Sydenhams Premier Division champions Salisbury at the end of the season.

Barfoot, who missed much of the latter part of the campaign injured, cannot do the increased travelling involved at Southern League level.

Manager Steve Claridge hopes to keep Charlie Searle who proved such an excellent stand-in for Barfoot on a dual registration from Havant & Waterloov-

ille, but it will depend on the wishes of his parent club.

Already signed up or agreeing to resign for next season are George Colson, Eddie Perrett, Callum Hart, Calum Brockway, Steve Walker, Jack Wallis, Robbie Matthews, Claudio Herbert, Sam Roberts, Brandon Mundy, Adam Kelly, Dan Demkiv, Danny Young and Kane O'Keeffe.

Those currently discussing deals are Tom Whelan, Elliot Wheeler, Sam Wilson, Ashley Jarvis, Taurean Roberts,

Nathan Ball and ex-Saint Jamie White.

With the Whites due to launch an under-21 side in the Wyvern Combination League, Reece Rusher and Ashton Leigh are expected to remain with more regular football on offer. Charlie Blake is also likely to sign playing forms and help with first-team physio duties.

It leaves Claridge looking for just "four or five" new recruits for next season as the Whites prepare for life at Step 4 level – probably alongside the likes of Winchester City and AFC Totton.

Team Solent relishing final despite exhausting fixtures

Postponed games jammed into last part of the season

JAMES Taylor's Team Solent side are relishing the challenge of Monday's Sydenhams League Cup final at Salisbury's Raymond McEnhill stadium (3pm).

The manager's only concern is that both sets of players will be too weary to make the most of the big occasion having waded through an exhausting backlog of fixtures, writes Wendy Gee.

With wet weather once again playing havoc during the winter months, Team Solent – and Monday's opponents Newport IoW – will have crammed four league games into eight days leading up to the final.

And in Taylor's opinion, something urgently needs to be done to prevent clubs being overwhelmed with fixtures during the latter stages of the season.

Having powered their way up the Sydenhams Premier table, Solent have stuttered a bit of late because of injuries and the need to rest some of their key players.

"We've had too many fixtures lately to be able to play everyone in every game," said Taylor. "We've just had to do the best we can to get through to Monday in the best shape possible.

"It seems that nearly everyone is playing too much football at the moment and I don't understand why."

"We had quite a few free midweeks in August, September and October and if more fixtures had been arranged then, we could have got ahead of schedule and not had this problem at the end of the season."

"It's a hell of a lot of football to be playing. We'll have played 57 games this season – plus university games – and the amount of fixtures clubs have had to play over the last three weeks cannot be right."

"Players have to work and our young university lads have lots to do other than play football."



Team Solent celebrate their Southampton Senior Cup Final at St Mary's

"As a university side, it won't do us any favours playing more games at the start of the season because we don't get some of the players back until late September/October, but playing four games a week at this time of year is a bit ridiculous. It's a health and safety issue and something needs to be done about it."

The strain has already taken its toll on Team Solent injury-wise with

Jamel Wiseman (hamstring), Matt Sheedy (ankle) and Martin Johnson (groin) almost certainly missing Monday's final, while defender Ellis White is struggling with a thigh strain.

"Ellis is touch and go and we've got quite a few others carrying knocks," said Taylor.

Despite his reservations, Taylor is relishing the challenge of trying to build on Solent's successful defence

of the Southampton Senior Cup.

The Students' ability to raise their game on the big night saw Blackfield & Langley ruthlessly blown away 5-0 at St Mary's.

"The lads are really looking forward to Monday," said the boss. "It's the thought of the final that's kept us going."

Admission for the cup final is £7 adults and £4 seniors/under-16s (including match programme).

Fixtures this week

Monday, May 2
EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Premier Division play-off final: Hungerford v Leamington.
Southern One South & West play-off final: Banbury v Taunton.
Southern One Central play-off final: St Ives v AFC Rushden & Diamonds.
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Newport IoW v Team Solent (at Salisbury FC, 3.00pm)
PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
PEHPL Combination Cup Final: Hamble Club Res v Liss Athletic Res (10.30am at AFC Portchester)
PEHPL Senior Cup Final: Hamble Club v Liss Athletic (2.30pm at AFC Portchester)

Tuesday, May 3
RUSSELL COTES CUP FINAL
AFC Portchester v Gosport Borough (at AFC Portchester)
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Fareham Town v Salisbury, Horndean v Brockenhurst.
Division One: Totton & Eling v Ringwood Town.
ANDOVER OPEN CUP FINAL
Otterbourne v South Wonston Swifts.

Wednesday, May 4
ISLE OF WIGHT GOLD CUP
Semi-final: Newport IoW v Whitecroft & Barton Sports (at Cowes Sports FC)
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Fawley AFC v Team Solent
SALISBURY HOSPITALS CUP
Shaftesbury v Amesbury Town.

Thursday, May 5
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Fareham Town v Blackfield & Langley, Moneyfields v Horndean.
NORTH HANTS SENIOR CUP FINAL
Whitchurch Utd v Tadley Calleva (at Basingstoke Town FC)

Saturday, May 7
SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division: Fareham Town v Verwood, Horndean v AFC Portchester, Salisbury v Newport IoW.
Division One: Tadley Calleva v East Cowes, Hythe & Dibden v Andover New Street, Pewsey Vale v Portland Utd.
PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
Senior Division: Infinity v Bush Hill, Otterbourne v Liss Athletic.

Havant & Waterlooville 1 Weston-Super-Mare 1

Hawks relegated on goal difference after draw

Hayter's first-half goal not enough

HAVANT & Waterlooville have been relegated from National League South, alongside Hampshire rivals Basingstoke Town, whose fate was sealed sometime ago.

They had to win their final match of the season against Weston-Super-Mare to ensure finishing above St Albans' City and Margate.

But despite taking a first-half lead through former Cherries striker James Hayter, they ended up drawing 1-1 in front of an anxious West Leigh Park crowd, writes Mike Vimpany.

The Hawks finished the season on 47 points – the same as Margate, whose final goal difference was just one better than Havant.

Margate lost their last game, 2-0 to Bath City at Twerton Park, while St Albans' – who somewhat significantly thrashed Havant 6-0 a fortnight ago – thumped Dartford 4-0.

The results conspired to make it a miserable afternoon for the Hawks, who were in the promotion play-offs 12 months ago and are now relegated for the first time in their history.

For the opening 45 minutes there was little hint that the afternoon – and season – would turn sour.

Havant were ahead in the 17th minute and looked comfortable at the break.

Hayter's predatory header inside the six-yard box from a precision cross by Ben Swallow earned the former AFC Bournemouth man his 11th goal of the season – and gave Hawks a crucial lead.

It was vital Havant clung on to that advantage and early in the second half they got a chance to double it – and put the game to bed.

Brian Stock got into a great position on the edge of the Weston box, but



James Hayter scored Havant & Waterlooville's only goal.

goalkeeper Luke Purnell was quick off his line and the chance was gone.

It was to be the first of two significant moments in the second period that would shape Havant's destiny.

Weston pushed more players forward, leaving Hawks struggling in centre-field and upped their game by 50 per cent, with the busy Tristan

Plummer causing problems.

But it was a mistake by one-time Saints player Matt Patterson 17 minutes from the end which led to the WSM equaliser which would ultimately send Havant down.

Patterson lost possession to full-back Sekani Simpson out on the far Weston right and when the ball was

worked in, the visitors equalised.

Jamie Edge shot from the edge of the box and Scott Wilson came in on the blind side to beat Ryan Young and make it 1-1.

Havant & Waterlooville had to score a second – but all they could manage were two late unrewarded corners.



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RESULTS

Saturday, 30 April, 2016
VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE SOUTH
Bath City 2 Margate 0
Chelmsford City 0 Basingstoke Town 2
Ebbesfleet 4 Eastbourne Borough 2
Gosport Borough 2 Hayes & Yeading 5
Havant & Waterlooville 1 Weston-s-Mare 1
Hemel Hempstead Town 0 Whitehawk 3
Maidstone 2 Concord Rangers 2
Maidstone 1 Bishops Stortford 1
Oxford City 0 Sutton 1
St Albans 4 Dartford 0
Truro 1 Wealdstone 2

EVO-STIK SOUTHERN LEAGUE
Championship match final:
Cinderford Town 2 Kings Langley 0

SYDENHAMS WESSEX LEAGUE
Premier Division
AFC Portchester 4 Salisbury 1
Alresford 1 Newport IoW 6
Andover 5 Fareham 0
Brockenhurst 5 Cowes Sports 2
Fawley AFC 0 Sholing 2
Hamworthy United 3 Folland Sports 2
Horndean 2 Bemerton HH 2
Team Solent 9 Bournemouth Poppies 1
Verwood 1 Lymington Town 0
Whitchurch 3 Blackfield & Langley 4
Division One
Alton 2 Chichester 4
Amesbury 2 Tadley Calleva 2
East Cowes Vics 5 AFC Stoneham 6
Laverstock & Ford 2 Hythe & Dibden 3
Portland 2 Totton & Eling 0
Ringwood 7 Andover NS 0
Romsey 4 Pewsey Vale 1
Portsmouth Senior Cup, semi-final
Baffins Milton Rovers 2 Moneyfields 1

PUMA ENGINEERING HAMPSHIRE PREMIER LEAGUE
Premier Division
Bush Hill 4 Colder Common 1
Fleetlands 0 Winchester Castle 2
Headley United 1 Hedge End Rangers 2
Liphook 2 Infinity 2
QK Southampton 3 Clanfield 0
Division One
AFC Petersfield 0 Hayling United 5
Andover Lions 1 Four Marks 2

WYVERN COMBINATION LEAGUE
Premier Division
Moneyfield 1 Winchester City 0
Division 1
AFC Stoneham 2 Bashley 1
Tadley Calleva 2 Fawley 1

DREW SMITH GROUP SOUTHAMPTON LEAGUE
Premier Division
AFC Gulf Wester 1 Comrades 0
Braishfield 3 Soton University 1
Junior 1
BTC Soton 4 Capital 2
Nursling Res 1 Compton 2
Priory Rovers 0 Sporting BTC 0
Junior 3: Hedge End Town Res 2 AFC Hiltisbury 0
Upham Res 7 Shield 1, Shield 1
Upham Res 5, Waltham Wolves 1 AFC Phoenix 6.
Veterans 0-35: Gosport (awarded)
Redlynch & W (defaulted).

Non league FOOTBALL



Zach Glasspool heads his first goal for Sholing

Zach feeling at home at Portsmouth Road

FORMER Winchester City frontman Zach Glasspool is enjoying life at Sholing.

A few eyebrows were raised when the 27-year-old left Winchester's Southern One South & West promotion quest to return to the Sydenham League last month, but Glasspool already feels at home in Portsmouth Road, writes Neil Vincent.

"I've settled in really well here," he said. "I can't believe how positive they are!"

"The boys have taken to me quite well."

"Since I've come in they're starting to do things, starting to get the ball down a little bit better instead of just bashing it, which is good."

'Getting there'

"I wouldn't play for a club that wouldn't play football properly and we're gradually getting there."

Looking forward to next season, former Alresford

Town man Glasspool added: "We need to work on a few things, bring a few players in and hopefully have a cup run as well."

"We're still trying to piece things together. I'm learning the patterns of how these guys play and they're learning how I play."

"We need to just build on that every week, continue to improve and hopefully we can aim for the title and the FA Vase next season."

Hotshot says: 'we are going to win the league, next year'

Mason believes Boatmen will win the 2016/17 title

SHOLING hotshot Dan Mason believes the Boatmen can win the 2016/17 Sydenham Premier title.

Mason, who has been slugging it out all season with Salisbury's Sam Wilson for the division's golden boot award, says he and his teammates have already started thinking about next season's challenge, writes George Brooks.

"We can win the league next year, that's our target now," insisted the 23-year-old.

"We have played some good football this year and dominated teams. Our main target for next season is to start closing games out and to not concede as many goals."

"We need to dominate games from the first minute to the last and we have to defend better as a team – we have conceded too many goals from set pieces."

"We will all work hard over the summer and come back stronger next season."

Disappointed

The Boatmen last won the Sydenham Premier League title in 2013/14 and Mason admitted the team are disappointed that they failed to challenge runaway leaders Salisbury for this season's crown.

"We didn't have the season we'd hoped for – we wanted to challenge Salisbury for the league," he said.

Injuries

"Unfortunately, we had a lot of injuries to contend with and then we didn't play for two months because of problems with our pitch."

"It killed our momentum and it was a real challenge for us to get fit again – you can do as much training as you want, match fitness comes from playing games."



Dan Mason (right) celebrates with brother Byron

Picture by Ray Routledge

"Hopefully next season will be a smoother ride and we can win the title."

Due to a number of fixture postponements over the winter period, the Boatmen have had to play their final five matches in the space of ten days.

However, Mason says this has hasn't affected the team's progress and has helped to make the players' bond stronger.

The forward believes this will give the team an advantage ahead of next season's title push.

"It hasn't really changed anything."

"We're all mates and we get to see each other a lot so, if anything, it's brought us closer together."

"It feels like pre-season already – we have that team spirit and togetherness."

"Hopefully we can carry that over into next season and win the league."

The Blues collar title

PORLAND United made short work of wrapping up the Sydenham Division One title.

The Blues, who returned to the Wessex ranks only last summer from the Dorset Premier League, got themselves over the line with three games to spare after thrashing Andover New Street 5-0 last Saturday.

A hat-trick from Alex Godfrey and goals from Carl McClements and Lewis Whyton saw them lift the crown at the first time of asking.

After a hectic week in which Portland crammed in four games in seven days, manager Gary Bailey was rightly proud of his troops.

"There is huge relief and pride with what this squad has achieved," he smiled. "To secure back-to-back promotions and secure the league, it's more than we could ever have wished."

"It is fantastic for the club, everyone has worked so hard, the players have been terrific."

"Today was tough after the games we've played this week, but they came through it."

The hectic schedule meant the Blues started slowly at Andover, but they were ahead in the 20th minute.

Good play from Ryan McKechnie and Alex Halloran set up Godfrey.

Bailey added: "We struggled in the first half and the goal should have settled us down. There was always a bit of tension about us."

United doubled their lead within five minutes of the second period as Whyton powered home a free header from a corner.

Pressure lifted, Portland began to play with more freedom.

Godfrey added his second with a 65th-minute volley and then completed his hat-trick two minutes later, leaving McClements to round things off.

"It was nice to get another clean sheet and our defence all season has been fantastic," said Bailey. "We could have scored more, but I'll take 5-0, thank you!"



Alex Godfrey, right

Non league FOOTBALL



Former Eastleigh boss Paul Doswell lifts the National League South trophy with Sutton United

Achieving promotion is the proudest day for manager

PAUL DOSWELL achieved many great things during his inspirational time in charge of Eastleigh.

But the former Spitfires supremo admits that winning the National League South title with Sutton United tops the lot.

The Us – captained by fellow ex-Eastleigh man Jamie Collins – lifted the trophy in front of more than 1,500 joyous fans at Gander Green Lane last Saturday.

Goals from ex-Salisbury City striker Dan Fitchett – his 21st of the season – and Ross Stearn got them over the line with a 2-0 win over Chelmsford City.

Admitting the emotion of the occasion had got to him, Compton-based Doswell – a lifelong Saints fanatic – said: “I had a couple of tears coming off the pitch, which is not like me.

“I am elated for everyone at the club. I feel particularly proud for the players and proud for myself and my family – it’s been a long and exciting journey over eight years and to come back from last year’s disappointments is even better.

Drug

“Ninety per cent of football is not great, the travelling and losing, the wet and cold weather.

“The ten per cent is the drug that keeps you going and we’re addicts, we live for the ten per cent.”

It was Doswell who sowed the seeds for Eastleigh’s heady climb up the football pyramid which has taken them from Wessex League mediocrity to National League play-off hopefuls in little more than a decade.

He was appointed Sutton manager in 2008 and led the Us to the Ryman Premier Division title three years



Rolling back the years: Paul Doswell celebrates Eastleigh's Ryman Premier Division play-off triumph with young son Freddie in 2005

later.

Reflecting on his success on both sides of the Hampshire/Surrey divide, Doswell said: “I got Eastleigh from the Wessex League to the Conference South and that was amazing even for me.

“But to get Sutton in the Conference

South was a very good achievement because the club was in danger of going another league down if we were not careful.

“It was a question of two years stabilising the club and getting it on a sound footing. So, in terms of my personal achievement, winning this



Glenn Southam

Pair leave Dragons

GLEN Southam and Shaun McAuley are on their way out of Basingstoke Town.

The former Eastleigh duo have been released as the north Hampshire club prepare for life after relegation from the Vanarama National League South.

Ex-Swindon Town winger/striker Lloyd Macklin has also been let go, as has a third ex-Eastleigh midfielder Jamie Brown – plus James Harper and Ryan Case – as Town prepare to shine a light on youth.

Manager Terry Brown, who is taking Town full-time next season, explained: “The philosophy of the club is to look at our own academy players first and then to supplement the squad with the most talented young players who have been released from local Premier, Championship and League clubs.

“I have been watching under-21 games for the last six months and several players I have seen will be looking for full-time contracts in the summer.

“What we can offer them is a unique opportunity to train full-time under first-class coaches in a supportive, disciplined environment that will help them grow both on and off the field.

“Some will progress quickly and be sold on to professional clubs, the later developers will form the spine of our team that will enable us to progress through the pyramid, playing passing football and hopefully enjoying several exciting cup runs.”

Basingstoke, though, will keep a core of seasoned, senior players in the ranks to help the youngsters along.

“To enable the club to succeed and win games in the Evo-Stik or Ryman League we will need some experienced players to help our new players adjust to men’s football,” Brown explained.



Shaun McAuley

Non league FOOTBALL



Bournemouth boss Eddie Howe

Howe believes Cherries will benefit from Poole Town winning the Southern League

AFC BOURNEMOUTH boss Eddie Howe has congratulated Poole Town on winning the Southern League – and believes the Cherries can benefit from their non-League neighbours scaling the pyramid.

The Dolphins will step up to the National League South next season, the sixth tier of English football.

And with young Cherries like Joe Quigley and Matt Butcher having already cut their senior teeth with Poole, Howe has vowed to maintain good relations with Tom Killick's newly-crowned Evo-Stik Southern Premier champions.

"I think it's great news for Poole and the area as well," said Howe.

"They have finally done it and have worked so hard to get into that posi-

tion. I have a lot of time for Tommy and the club and it is potentially good news for us."

"The relationship between the clubs is very good. We would love to loan them players and, of course, the higher the level our lads are playing at, the better."

Killick, meanwhile, says the vast majority of his title-winning squad deserve the opportunity to play in National League South.

"There is no way they would get blind loyalty from me. If I didn't think they were capable of it then it wouldn't happen," he stressed.

"But I feel the vast majority of the squad deserve the chance and, more importantly, I think they are capable of it."

When you have those two things together, you are keen to keep players.

"I know the players have become a really close-knit group and they fought so hard to achieve this."

"I would be surprised if any of them didn't want to stay together and have a go at what they have been striving for."

"I love working with this group because they get on so well."

"I love seeing them when they are together because they do get a lot of enjoyment from being in each other's company and I'm really keen to maintain that."

"But, realistically, we do need to strengthen. In terms of our promotions, this will probably be the biggest jump we have had to make."

McMahon still has a future at Ebbsfleet

FORMER Eastleigh skipper Daryl McMahon will be staying at the helm of Ebbsfleet United next season – whatever happens in the play-offs.

Having spent seven long months at the top on the National League South, Ebbsfleet were knocked off their lofty perch by Paul Doswell's Sutton United who were crowned champions last weekend.

Doswell won the battle of the former Spitfires by leading the Us on a stunning run of 25 games unbeaten, leaving McMahon to face the lottery of the play-offs.

But Ebbsfleet owner Dr Abdulla Al-Humaidi, who was in the directors' box when McMahon's men lost their crucial top-two clash at Gander Green Lane a fortnight ago, believes the Irishman is the right man to take the Kent club forward.

Tremendous job

He said: "He's done a tremendous job. The style of football is attractive and he can only get better."

"It's the highest we've been since we took over three years ago. The first season we ended in fourth, last season it was eighth and we're runners-up this season."

"He's done a good job and can only improve. I'm sure he learns a lot, as we do, and we will be sticking with Daryl no matter what the outcome is."

Saluting Doswell's champions, Dr Al-Humaidi added: "All credit goes to Sutton. If it were another season, we'd be finishing top with the number of points we have."

"If it weren't for Sutton's incredible run – 25 matches unbeaten – I think we'd finish as champions."



Daryl McMahon

Killick hails Dolphins' will to win after making come back

Side have already secured Southern Premier crown

TOM Killick hailed Poole Town's will to win after his Southern Premier champions came back from behind to edge their final league game 2-1 at Cambridge City last weekend.

Ex-AFC Totton forward Luke Roberts and converted striker Lewis Lindsay got the Dolphins out of trouble after captain Buster Harridane had put the hosts ahead.

For once Poole were playing without pressure, having already guaranteed themselves the title and National League South football next season. So Killick was impressed that they still had the desire to take all three points.

"I was interested to see how the game panned out, given the players knew there was nothing particularly riding on it," he said.

"I thought it was really positive that, having gone a goal behind, there was a real determination to come back and win."

"It was a positive reflection of the players' mentality."

Dolphins midfielder Marvin Brooks headed against the bar before Harridine slotted into the empty net after the ball had evaded Poole keeper Nick Hutchings.

It stayed that way until midway through the second half when Lindsay's knockdown allowed Roberts to slot in the equaliser.

Moments later goalkeeper Tom Rees replaced Hutchings for his first league appearance of the season, while under-18s ace Ryan Kelly went



Lewis Lindsay celebrates his winner at Cambridge.

on for striker Richard Gillespie.

With seven minutes remaining, the champions grabbed the winner.

Brooks climbed well in the box

and his headed lay-off was tapped through Barrett's legs by the gleeful Lindsay, who spent time on loan with Totton from AFC Bournemouth.

The match marked Jack Dickson's final appearance for Poole prior to him departing to study in the United States.

Non league FOOTBALL



Boss Ken Vaughan

Poppies' sigh of relief after tough season ends in safety

BOSS Ken Vaughan believes Bournemouth Poppies' tough season in the Sydenham Wessex Premier was to be expected.

The Victoria Park side are safe from the drop but will finish the campaign well short of a comfortable mid-table place.

"We've been down more than we've been up," Vaughan admitted.

"It's been a horrible season, not nice for us at all, but we can only expect what we get."

"If you haven't got the funds then you have got to expect what we're doing."

"We're not the only ones, I

think there are a few teams like that."

Poppies were blown away 6-1 at Horndean last Saturday – despite taking the lead through Vaughan's goalkeeper son, Kenny, making a rare outfield appearance for the side.

His effort proved in vain

as braces from Mark Smith, Dan Hayes and Robbie Tambling swept the Deans to victory.

It was 1-1 at the break, but Deans boss Craig Pearce said: "At half-time we spoke about being more ruthless and, to be fair, the players came out flying."



Upham Reserves celebrate. Pictures by Lauren Cargill, LRC Photography.

Upham have done the double and are now up for the terrific treble

WHAT a season it has been for Upham Reserves!

They have already lifted two pieces of silverware and now have their beady eyes on a sparkling treble.

So far Chris Payne's blue and yellow army have the SDFA Junior B Cup and the Roy Wightman Junior Cup adorning their trophy shelf.

Now, as the only side left unbeaten in the entire Southampton Saturday Football League (as of April 26), they have high hopes of adding the Junior Three title to their impressive 2015/16 haul.

"Both cup finals have been a battle, which is the sort of football we enjoy playing," smiled proud manager Payne.

"All we need to do now is keep focused and win out remaining games, then the treble is ours."

"All of the players have been outstanding this season, including our captain Wesley Allwood, who never fails to step up to the mark and lead the team as well as scoring all-important goals along the way."

Upham Reserves beat Kings Park Rangers 2-0 in the SDFA Junior Cup

final courtesy of goals from Allwood and Rob Pfeiffer. Pfeiffer was also on target, along with Stuart Creese, in the 2-1 Roy Wightman Junior Cup defeat of Nursling Reserves,

Upham Reserves: Chris Payne (manager), Wesley Allwood (captain), Leigh Bishop, Rob Pfeiffer, Rocky Moore, Robby Dale, Rich Freeland, Ollie Coles, Steven Purnell, Gareth Lloyd, Ryan Cunningham, Ash Hughes, James Morgan, Tom King, Stu Creese, Glen Nicol, Jake Chamberlain, Kieron Shalloe, Ian Heath, Chris Rae and Myles Lofthouse.



Upham captain Wesley Allwood.

Reign over at Shots

BARRY Smith was today taking his last game in charge of Eastleigh's Vanarama National League rivals Aldershot Town.

The north Hampshire club have accepted Smith's decision not to renew his contract for 2016/17.

Smith, who was due to bring the curtain down on his year-long Shots' reign against Bromley today, is leaving for personal and family reasons.

"I am very grateful that the board of directors have shown such confidence in me and wanted me to extend my contract for next season, but I had to make a decision for my family," the 42-year-old Scot explained.

"The board have given me their full backing throughout the season, but also have understood why I needed to make this decision to return to Scotland."

Ahead of today, former Dundee and Alloa boss Smith had won 15 of his 45 league games at Aldershot, who sat 16th in non-league's top tier.

Shots' chairman Shahid Azeem said: "I would like to thank Barry for his honesty in making what must have been a very difficult decision. We are sorry to lose him, but recognise that some things are more important than football."

"I have the utmost respect for Barry as someone who is totally dedicated to his work and both ethical and honest in everything he does."

"He completely bought into this club last summer, and what we were trying to achieve, and made a big commitment in moving to the area with his wife and young son," he added.

"On behalf of everybody at Aldershot Town, I wish Barry and his family the very best for the future."

Former Shots' boss Gary Waddock is the fans' favourite to take over.

Non league FOOTBALL



Red-carded: Dorchester's Franklyn Clarke (right).

Clarke knows he must learn after red card for slap

FRANKLYN Clarke feels he has lessons to learn after being sent off in Dorchester Town's 4-1 home defeat to Kettering last weekend.

The former Blackfield & Langley and Wimborne Town midfielder was given his marching orders for a retaliatory push on Poppies' Ben Stephens.

"I won the foul off him and, when I got up, he slapped me on the cheek," said Clarke.

"I did the same to him and the ref-

eree came storming over and showed me a straight red card."

Stephens remained on the field and Clarke said: "I felt I was unlucky."

Handbags

"It was just handbags and it wasn't fair to not give him anything, but I've got to learn just to get on with it."

Clarke, who made 15 starts for Blackfield in the Sydenhams Premier last season, became an instant fans' favourite at Dorchester in De-

cember when he scored against local rivals Weymouth on his debut.

The 6ft 2in, Liverpool-born midfielder is already looking forward to next season with the Magpies in the Southern Premier Division.

"I want us to progress and push on," he said. "Mark (Jermyn, Dorchester manager) has said it is a young side and it is."

"We just need to get used to playing with each other and improve so we can be closer to those play-offs."

City director prepared to let goal-machine Bentley leave

Club won't stand in way of prolific striker's ambition

WINCHESTER City director of football Dave Malone is prepared to let goal machine Warren Bentley leave after the club's season ended in play-off heartbreak.

Bentley was restricted to one half-chance as City lost their Southern One South & West play-off semi-final 1-0 at Banbury on Tuesday, writes Simon Walter.

After two prolific seasons with Winchester it may well prove to be the former Alresford striker's last game for the club.

Malone said: "We agreed to leave discussions til the end of the season, so there's a lot of talking to be done with Warren.

"He's probably one that other clubs will covet.

"He loves the club but he's ambitious as well.

"You can't blame him for wanting to try, but it has to be right for him.

"After more than 100 goals in two seasons, we won't stand in his way.

"I had this with Forbesy (Andy Forbes).

"You have to respect players and Warren's been an absolutely top lad.

"He's been a credit to himself as a player and a man – but I'm hopeful no-one will come in that suits him."

Malone believes City's limited resources contributed to a disappointing performance at Banbury, who were worthy winners – albeit that it took an 86th-minute goal to settle matters.

Credit

He added: "We've had a great season and started off like a train, but have a very small squad and that's caught up with us.

"We tailed off and our key players, Warren in particular, looked tired.

"That's not surprising because I think he's played 54 games and scored even more goals.



Winchester City's Warren Bentley

"We didn't have anyone on the bench to change the game, but to finish fifth is a credit to all the lads."

"Having said that, I'd rather not be in the play-offs than lose like that."

"It was a body blow to lose at that late stage."

Manager Paul Masters was in agreement with Malone that Bentley should be allowed to move on with

City's best wishes – but only if the right club comes along.

"I've said all along that I wouldn't want to stop the lad playing higher if the right move comes through."

"We'll just have to wait and see what happens," he said.

"I don't want him going somewhere that doesn't suit him."

"Warren wants a bit of time to see

where everything's at and decide what he wants to do.

"He loves the club but, if he does decide to leave, he would go with our best wishes."

"He couldn't have given us any more than he's given."

"He's been great."

"I couldn't have asked for any more from him."

Rousing send-off

THERE was an emotional ending to the first weekend of Southampton & District Tyro League finals held at AFC Totton's Testwood Stadium.

With just over two minutes left to play of Sholing Youth's 2-0 win over BTC Southampton in the under-13 Tyro Challenge Cup final, there was barely a dry eye in the house.

It followed BTC boss Ryan Lambert bringing off Ben Wells who was playing his final game due to a medical condition.

Sholing FC secretary Greg Dickson reported: "When it was announced over the tannoy the reason for the change, the watching supporters stood, applauded and cheered.

"The referee joined in the applause and a tearful Ben collapsed into manager Ryan Lambert's arms, leaving very few dry eyes in the Testwood Stadium.

Presentation

"At the final whistle everyone went over to Ben and then a presentation was made to him by both managers and he was given each team's shirt signed by each side.

"The Southampton & District Tyro League Committee would like to wish Ben and his family all the best with his forthcoming treatment."

Sholing Youth won the final 2-0 with goals by Lewis Nagle and Joshua Jones early in the second half. Jones was named man-of-the-match.

The Under-14 Tommy Traynor Trophy Final was a high-scoring affair with man-of-the-match Devon Arnold scoring all four goals for South Wilts Soccer School in their 4-2 victory over Soccer 4 All Tigers (Ryan Smith, Joshua Dacre).

Roared

Sportstars Tigers, meanwhile, roared to a 3-1 success over Totton & Eling Red in the Under-14 Tyro Challenge Cup Final with goals by Daniel Bonavia, Tomasz Krakoviak and Matthew Dean.

Callum Crotty bagged T&E's consolation goal, while Sportstars Tigers' George Kirk was man-of-the-match.

The Under-13 Tommy Traynor Trophy Final went the way of Bitterne Youth Red. They beat Alresford Town 4-0 through Harry Nandin, Ben Wiltshire (2) and Sidney Miles.

Despite the scoreline, it was Bitterne's goalkeeper Thomas Landreath who took the man-of-the-match honours for keeping Alresford at bay.

Non league FOOTBALL



Brazilian Barcelos a thorn in the side yet again

WINCHESTER City are not the first local side to have their play-off dreams shattered by Banbury United's match-winner Felipe Barcelos.

The 24-year-old Brazilian, who moved to Oxford aged 14, scored for Oxford City in their 4-2 Southern Premier play-off final defeat of AFC Totton in May, 2012.

Stuart Ritchie's Stags had dominated the early stages but, against the run of play, Barcelos fired City into a 39th-minute lead.

Stefan Brown soon equalised, but Barcelos was then involved in a controversial sequence of events on 58 minutes, chasing on to a long ball from what the Stags believed was an offside position.

No flag was raised and, to compound Totton's fury, the referee penalised Jamie Whisken for handball, allowing Steve Basham to score from the spot.

Goals by Kynan Isaac and Albi Skendi extended Oxford's lead before

Mark Osman struck late for Totton. Oxford City's manager that day was Mike Ford - now boss of Banbury.

• **WINCHESTER** City will have a new face overseeing their under-16 and under-18 set-ups next season.

That man is Elliott Trodd, previously manager of City's under-15s who will become under-16s for 2016/17. Trodd will relinquish management of that side, which will now be run by Gareth Byers.

Winchester's current under-18s

boss Greg Llewelyn will step up to liaise between the under-18s and Grant Orchard's reserve side. Ryan Andress will manage the under-18s.

City already have a strong squad of players at both under-16 and under-18 level, but are always looking to strengthen.

An open training day is planned for Saturday, May 7. Any player, aged 15 to 18, interested in attending should contact Elliott Trodd on 07968 288283 or Ryan Andress on 07891 245839.

Play-off 'a tight one'

WINCHESTER City boss Paul Masters predicts Monday's Southern One South & West play-off final will be "a tight one."

A month ago, he would have tipped Taunton Town to join automatically-promoted champions Cinderford in the Premier Division next season.

But Masters, whose Winchester side were second best to Banbury in Tuesday's semi-final, anticipates a close battle.

"If you'd asked me a month ago, I would have said Taunton to win, but they've not been in the best form," he said.

"I know Banbury beat Taunton (2-0) recently, but Lewis Powell wasn't playing and he makes a big difference up front for Taunton.

"It's going to be a real tight game.

"It's a shame we didn't get through, but those two finished second and third so I suppose people who think the play-offs are unfair would say that they're the two who deserve to get to the final."

Banbury boss Mike Ford believes his side will have to be more relaxed and make better decisions than they did in Tuesday night's 1-0 win over Winchester, settled by Felipe Barcelos' late winner.

Ford said: "We've got to deal with the nerves on Monday, play a bit better and our decision-making must be better.

"It was an edgy night all round on Tuesday.

"There are a lot of young players in my side and Winchester made it really difficult for us. They dropped off and let us have the ball but we spent too long on it and didn't move it quickly enough.

"That was my fourth 1-0 victory in seven play-off games during my career. They can be very tight and tense affairs but we should have won this one by a country mile.

"Their goalkeeper has made several good saves, we should have scored straight after half time when Felipe [Barcelos] managed to give the ball back to the keeper instead of putting it into the net."



Felipe Barcelos.

Winchester boss gracious in play-off semi-final defeat

Disappointment over manner of late winning goal

WINCHESTER City boss Paul Masters is the first to admit Banbury United deserve their place in Monday's Southern One South & West play-off final, but he was still disappointed to lose.

The Puritans were the better side on the night, yet the longer Tuesday's semi-final remained goalless, the more hopeful he became that it would be Winchester who would snatch a late goal and scrape into Monday's final, writes Wendy Gee.

Banbury's Brazilian striker Felipe Barcelos had other ideas, however, cashing in on a misunderstanding in the City defence to fire the Oxfordshire hosts through 1-0 with an 86th-minute winner.

"They were the better side on the night, I can't deny that, but I thought we were growing into the game," said Masters.

"When we got there, I did fancy us (to win).

"We knew they were going to play a lot of football, but we were beginning to create chances and it was a blow to be caught by a killer goal right at the end."

Barcelos pounced following a mix-up between City centre-half Leigh Mills and their otherwise excellent young Canadian goalkeeper Brendan Norris.

It left the gleeful South American with the simple task of slotting into an open goal.

"If we'd been beaten by a good goal, it wouldn't have felt so bad, but we've been undone by one ball over the top from a dead ball in their half," said Masters.

"Losing to a wonder goal is one thing, but it makes it worse losing to a goal like that."

City, though, could not begrudge Banbury their victory and can take heart from an encouraging first season back in the Southern League



Winchester City manager Paul Masters

ranks.

Finishing fifth and reaching the play-off semi-finals was no mean feat considering they were Sydenham's Premier runners-up just a year ago and were not promoted until mid-June after Flackwell Heath had turned down the opportunity to go up.

When the season kicked off City were aiming no higher than consolidation, but expectation levels inevitably shot up when they banged in 19 goals in their first four games.

They stayed in and around the play-off zone throughout a long, tiring

season which also took in the Hampshire FA Senior Cup final and decent runs in the FA Cup and Red Insure Cup.

But, ultimately, the shattered Citizens stumbled over the finish line as weary minds and heavy limbs slowed them down.

"Probably the lack of squad depth showed towards the end," conceded Masters. "Plus other teams got to know us and how we play. We knew we weren't going to keep blowing teams away like we did at the start of the season.

"But I've said all along that we've

over-achieved. Every single one of these lads has been fantastic."

With Tuesday's disappointment still raw, Masters will give himself a break before turning his attention to next season.

Until he speaks to chairman Paul Murray and director of football Dave Malone, he doesn't know if there will be financial scope to strengthen the squad over the summer - or even if he will still be in charge.

"We haven't discussed me yet or spoken about players," he said. "What we bring in player-wise depends on the budget."

Non league FOOTBALL



Steve Claridge

Melksham defeat ends Salisbury's double dreams

SALISBURY'S hopes of completing a league/cup double were dashed by Melksham Town on Wednesday.

Having roared to the Sydenhams Wessex Premier title, Steve Claridge's Whites were aiming for glory in the Wiltshire Senior Cup.

But, despite dominating possession,

they paid the price for missed chances in a 2-0 defeat at Chippenham's Hard-enhuish Park. Two goals in the last 20 minutes from Joe Stradling and Gary Higdon carried Toolstation Western Premier outfit Melksham to victory.

Salisbury were looking to bounce back at AFC Portchester in the league today.

They head to Fareham Town on Tuesday before wrapping up the campaign at home to Newport IoW next Saturday. For Newport, it will be their second trip to the Raymond McEnhill Stadium inside six days. On Monday at 3pm they take on Team Solent in the Sydenhams League Cup final at Old Sarum.



Footballers from Hythe and Dibden Tigers and Oakwood Dynamos youth teams raising funds for Dylan's Quest

Teammates play up to help net funds for Dylan's Quest

AS a popular footballer for Oakwood Youth FC, Dylan Vanheer always put a smile on his teammates' faces.

Last Saturday it was the club's turn to do their bit for their poorly defender with a 12-hour sponsored five-a-side football match to raise money for his charity Dylan's Quest.

The last year has been extremely tough for 12-year-old Dylan who, in May 2015, limped into hospital with what he thought was a football injury, writes Wendy Gee.

A number of treatments failed to resolve it and, sadly, doctors found tumours on his spinal cord which were removed in a gruelling seven-and-a-half-hour operation.

Dylan spent the bulk of the next year in Southampton General Hospital and during his stay there he recognised that further funding was needed to assist children and young adults in similar situations – hence the creation of Dylan's Quest.

Last Saturday's marathon, which pitted Oakwood against their friends from Hythe & Dibden Youth FC at



Dylan Vanheer



Hythe and Dibden v Oakwood action

Test Park, was one of several fundraising events the club have held.

It was the brainchild of Craig Ford, manager of Oakwood, who got together with Hythe boss Ian Brombley to get the event off the ground.

"Dylan started out playing for Oakwood Rangers and then became part of my Dynamos team," Ford explained.

"He was a very popular player who always put a smile on people's faces and he still does. He's a really lovely lad."

"He played as a defender and he was a bit of a gentle giant really with a tall physique and quite strong."

"After failing poorly Dylan came up with a lot of fundraising ideas while in hospital and the club has done a lot

to help raise money such as a sponsored bag pack at Tesco last year.

"We're still collating the money raised from last weekend's match, players from both Oakwood and Hythe & Dibden had sponsorship forms.

"But we did a raffle and that alone raised £303."

Dylan, who is back at home in Lordswood, attended the last couple of hours of the five-a-side match with his mum Michelle and presented the trophy to Oakwood's Reece Scammell.

"The day went really well," said Ford. "We had several teams there from under-7s to under-13s and Dylan came along for the last-age-group."

"It was a delight to see him."

Dylan's Quest has so far raised in excess of £9,500.

The money will go towards play specialists and therapy teams at Southampton Hospital Charity who have played a vital part in Dylan's rehab.

● For more information go to: <http://www.justgiving.com/Dylanvanheer/2>

Amesbury going up

AMESBURY Town are celebrating promotion to the Sydenhams Premier Division.

Gareth Horner's Blues required one victory from their last two games to clinch runners-up spot in Division One.

They achieved it on Wednesday with a 3-1 home win over newly-crowned league champions Portland United who will join them in the top flight next season.

Danny Finnigan bagged a brace and Josh Stockwell scored the other for the elated Blues, who successfully fended off Tadley Calleva in the race for second spot.

Bonnymead Park boss Horner beamed: "It topped off what has been an eventful three years for the club."

"Who would have thought that in such a short space of time we would have achieved promotion to the Wessex Premier League?"

Amesbury had to wait 34 minutes for the opening goal to arrive when Stockwell, on his first start, drilled his shot into the bottom corner.

That lead was doubled by a Finnigan header on the hour mark, but Portland pulled one back through Ross Carmichael's deflected free kick – the first goal Town 'keeper Paddy Creese had conceded in 623 minutes of football.

Chances followed at either end before Finnigan got the promotion party started with his second and Amesbury's third in stoppage time. It was his 26th goal of a fruitful season.

● EASTLEIGH are launching an adult women's team next season.

Trials for Eastleigh FC Ladies will be held at the Silverlake Stadium on Friday, May 20 from 6.30-8pm.

For further details please contact mcastle@eastleighfc.com or ring 023 8061 3361.

● FANS still have time to bag a 2016/17 Eastleigh season ticket at the early bird rate. Terrace ticket prices are £120 adults, £80 concessions, £40 under-16s and free for under-7s. Call 023 8061 3361 for details.



Josh Stockwell is head over heels after scoring for Amesbury

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Tomorrow's triumph trail

SOUTHAMPTON city centre faces its most crowded Sunday on record when thousands of fans are expected to welcome the Saints home.

After a 19-mile tour of the city, the team will arrive at the Civic Centre at

Bob sends his best wishes

MANY good luck cards and telegrams poured into Southampton's Cup Final headquarters in the Surveyor's building. There was a particularly special one from Bob Stokoe, his Sunderland manager.

Stokoe predicted Sunderland to a Cup win in 1973—the last time a Second Division club won the trophy and, coincidentally, he stayed in the same hotel as Saints.

And the hotel staff put money on Saints to win the cup, just as they did for

4.15 pm. They will be welcomed by the Mayor, and at 4.30 there will be speeches for the big crowd.

But there will be plenty of opportunity to see the Saints before that. For an hour-and-a-quarter, manager Laurie McMenamy and the team will be visiting most areas of the city in an open-topped bus.

This is the route:

Depart The Dell at 3 pm, Horatio Road, Shirley Road, Park Street, Oakley Road (traffic lights at 3.07 pm), Cumbrian Way, Kendal Avenue, Windermere Avenue, Rutherford Hill (traffic lights 3.15 pm).

Winchester Road, Warren Avenue, Oxford Road, Lordwood Road, Hill Lane (Hill Brow/Burgess Road, 3.25 pm), Burgess Road, Broadlands Road, Portswood Road (Portswood Road St Denys Road 3.33 pm), St Denys Road.

Manor Farm Road, Muggeson Avenue, West End Road, Benworth Avenue, Somerset Avenue, Bitterne Road, Hinkler Road (Hinkler Road/Bursledon Road 3.35 pm).

Bursledon Road, Bursledon Hall, 4 pm), Palmerston Road, Poundtree Road.

The Saints' bus will meet up with the Southampton band outside the Odeon Cinema and the procession will then go along Above Bar, Commercial Road and

Havelock Road to arrive in the forecourt of the Civic Centre at about 4.15 pm.

There has been disappointment in some areas of the city that have not been included in the tour's route. But Saints have explained that it had been worked out in consultation with the police

Saints goalkeeper Ian Turner is in the right place to beat down a shot from Gordon Hill (right) and recover the ball to clear.

Today's other football

Extra buses for crowds

EXTRA buses to cater for the crowds expected to welcome Saints on their tour of the city are being laid on by Southampton Corporation.

From 2 pm to 4 pm quarter hourly services into the city centre will run on the numbers 2, 5, 11, 14, 17 and 18 routes.

"In addition, extra buses will be added to other routes, if our inspectors find there is sufficient demand," said Mr. John Owen, traffic superintendent.

"We shall also be laying on plenty of buses in the city centre for home-going trips, as and when the Saints tour ends."

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McMENEMY'S SOCCERSCOPE

The right style has bred success

I POSSIBLY said it in passing but now I think everyone appreciates that this has been one of our most successful seasons ever.

Win or lose today, to get to Wembley was a tremendous achievement. Even to the most knowledgeable person, it all probably didn't sink in until they were on their way to the stadium.

But when the team emerged from the tunnel at full time, it hit home to every Sotonian throughout the world. It took the name of Southampton into almost every town and city in the country and to many more throughout the world, much as it did with Sunderland three years ago.

Any fan who had the first team narrowly missing out on promotion mainly because of a poor away record, but let us not fail to praise the almost unique home record which led to more wins than almost anyone else in the League.

that at some stage in the game the team as a whole will have to be able to defend when put under pressure.

*

It must be remembered that I haven't signed a new player for well over a year. The players I have gathered at The Dell are certainly moving in the right direction and next season could be the one in which we will get the most out of all promotion.

And not only that. We are moving towards getting the team to play in the First Division once we arrive there, rather than just simple hanging on.

I think that if this is achieved, most people will be more than satisfied even if it meant three years of effort in the Second Division.

How many people in all honesty can say that Second Division fare has been all that good? The players have endeavoured to give 100 per cent effort and in the process have provided value for money.

I think that my biggest regret is the fact that we were relegated at the end of my first season with the club having come second in the Reserve and Accessed in their respective league and cup competitions give further proof of how strong the pool of players has become.

The biggest overall strength of these teams is that the players have grown up together, graduating from apprentices to professionals.

Encouraged by a hard-working staff at The Dell, they have grown to carry the principles which I believe in effort and dedication through every game and the will to win for the club and the supporters.

Professionals, they have been encouraged to concentrate on the good things of football; in other words, attacking with flair which requires plenty of training with the ball and working on the

basics of the game from their very early days namely passing, trapping, heading, shooting and ball control.

In the end, every player needs to be good professional because you need them to remember that they should give 100 per cent effort, even when you get a game in anybody's team.

At the end of just this successful season but my three-year period at the Dell, what a good team to judge any manager I can honestly say that this club is well stocked for the future. The combination and ability in comparison with other clubs is plentiful.

Honesty and dedication go right through the club and the spirit is as good as anywhere in the country. I think that my biggest regret is the fact that we were relegated at the end of my first season with the club having come second in the Reserve and Accessed in their respective league and cup competitions give further proof of how strong the pool of players has become.

The biggest overall strength of these teams is that the players have grown up together, graduating from apprentices to professionals.

Although we were relegated our gates since then have not varied a great deal proof that we are a winning team. Football which supporters will return to see on a regular basis, I honestly believe that future looks good.

Hundreds of letters have poured into my office in the last few weeks offering the principles which I believe in effort and dedication to those supporters and the many new ones who have joined us.

I ask everyone to continue with their worthwhile support next season when a lot more can be expected from the team, especially after their appearance at Wembley today.

POMPEY RELY ON ANCELL

By PETER EAST

AN AGEING Scot who was respected as something of a maestro when he came to finding talented footballers is now keeping an eye out for new men who could help lift Portsmouth off the floor.

In his heyday as manager of Motherwell, Bobby Allison snapped up a string of skilful young players and probably the best-known of them was Ian St John, who went to be one of Liverpool's great players before becoming Pompey manager.

Several others who were guided into football by Allison made their way through to the top flight in English football.

One of the big names is Scottish football, Dixie Dean, who will be playing for Glasgow Celtic against Portsmouth at Fratton Park on May 13. He was also snapped up as a youngster by the shrewd Allens.

Anzell is just one of a small group of men scanning the Scottish scene in the hope they will find the right type of youngster, and doing it for nothing.

NO MONEY

"We'd like to pay these people for the work they are doing in Scotland but there's no money available at the moment to accept it," said Pompey assistant manager Billy Hunter.

The Scots also have to accept the fact that the players they are looking for will have to be unknowns whose clubs are not asking a fee. There is no money for Pompey to pony up the transfer market either.

In fact, the lack of cash at Fratton Park has meant that Allens has done so much work with coaching for Pompey in the last three years is now looking for a job.

The Scots face a dilemma as coach expired last night and, when contracts run out at Portsmouth these days, the word is that Allens is virtually out of the question.

Not surprisingly, he is saddened by the fact that Pompey has still not acknowledged his efforts.

ACHIEVEMENTS
But the man who first came south from Scotland to manage player-coach in a Waterlooville setup which was then geared to providing youngsters for the First Division, is ready to talk about what he achieved than what I think of the club's decision.

Manley, who has been put out of football by injury, things could have been handled more graciously.

The game attracted a crowd of 32,100, paid nearly £2,000. That should be a great help to Manley, who is now looking for a job outside football, but, before the match, the two teams lined up and paid the pitch and there should have been a prematch celebration.

But all that happened was that poor Manley was left to walk out alone from the tunnel, to go through the millions of shaking hands with all the players and then make a lonely walk back.

That could mean that the days of waterlogged seats, some not needed, in the Press Box will be extended still further as it seems there is no one to mend the leak in the Press Box.

One would have thought that either Pompey's chairman, John Deacon, or general secretary Ian St John or secretary Jimmy Dickinson could have accompanied the player to give the ceremony just a little more substance.

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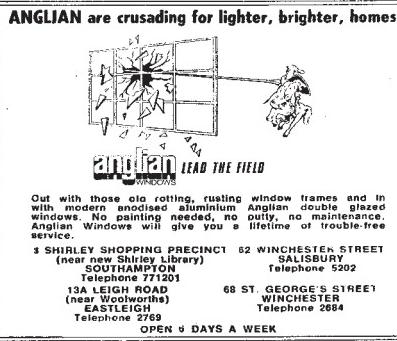
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This will no doubt strengthen the defence and encourage him to release more players. He intends to cut his staff to 17 from 24 and has already signed two new players, striker Tom Peters from Middlesbrough and midfield Hugh Riley from Bury.

And he intends to bring in three more, which means that there is likely to be a wholesale clear-out at Dean Court.



Brian Hayward

WITH THE SAINTS

Channon deserves a bumper turn-out



IKE CHANNON, England's premier forward and the only Saints player with a 100 per cent appearance record in season, stages his testimonial game against Steven's Park Rangers.

The Dell on Monday . . . 30.

It should be a great night — the Cup finalists against the present First Division leaders, who will not know whether they are champions until Wednesday, when they play Liverpool next Tuesday. Both Saints and Rangers are teams who place a premium attack and that alone assures a splendidly entertaining game.

SAINTS have won the Hampshire Senior Cup and could well finish third in Hampshire League Division 2 but for youth team coach John McGrath, this is just the icing on the cake, writes Bob Brunsell.

The big Lancastrian, scourge of many a centre-forward when he wore The No. 5 shirt of Bury, Newcastle and Saints, measures success not by results in the Hampshire League but on how quickly his youngsters graduate out of the A side. And with nine of his youngsters now appearing regularly in the Blues' first one of them, Steve Williams has played in the first team — McGrath can bask in the satisfaction of a successful season.

But McGrath can't sit back for long. "I'm at the beginning of a conveyor belt and now we've got the impetus going, we've got to raise standards even higher. My job is not to produce a good Hampshire League side but to just about all the leading sides throughout the country.

The quality of his play has been many hours of enjoyment for thousands of Saints and he deserves a bumper testimonial, Channon, like Terry Paine before him, is nothing special.



TERRY PAINE . . . something special.

AWAY DISASTER

Players must prove quality on the pitch

SAINTS face another season in the Second Division because of their disastrous away form — just 11 points from 21 games — but their failure to win promotion can be traced, with even greater accuracy, to four matches in particular.

I am talking about the visits to Orient (November 15), Blackburn Rovers (January 28), York City (February 28) and Plymouth Argyle (April 16). Saints gained just one point from the four matches, but they were in a position to win them all. Even six points out of the eight would have been sufficient to take them up.

Let me take a close look at the four games:

Orient — Saints were beaten 2-1 after being given the lead by Jim McCallig in the eighth minute. And it should all have been wrapped up immediately after half-time, but Peter Osgood missed a simple chance. So, instead of victory, Saints were beaten by a slice of bad luck and an own goal. The misfortune came when Gerry Queen scored an equaliser with his arm and a rush of blood saw Peter Rodrigues head into his own goal.

Blackburn — This was a 1-1 draw, but again Saints were first to score — a goal by Osgood after ten minutes. And Saints then had enough chances to win comfortably, but they missed them, made a mistake in defence and were beaten by Paul Hinch's 87th minute goal.

Plymouth — Saints needed to win this Good Friday game to stay in the promotion hunt, but a combination of missed chances and excellent goal-

keeping by Jim Furnell denied them. Then Saints were sunk by Peter Dark's goal eight minutes from time.

York — Saints went into this game unbeaten over 16 matches, but they played badly, perhaps thinking about the Cup quarter-final at Bradford two weeks ago. Micky Cave gave a lead, but all seemed set fair for Saints when Mike Channon levelled the scores five minutes before half-time. Saints then had enough chances to win comfortably, but they missed them, made a mistake in defence and were beaten by Paul Hinch's 87th minute goal.

Blackpool — This was a 1-1 draw, but again Saints were first to score — a goal by Osgood after ten minutes. And Saints then had enough chances to win comfortably, but they were not taken and

they were beaten by a goal from time.

The significance of those four games is now painfully obvious; Saints were in a position to win them all and the failure to do so has a consequence that will last at least one season.

The home record has been phenomenal — just four points dropped from 20 and the make missing promotion so much harder to bear. Only Sunderland had a better home points return, collecting 40 to Saints' 38, but their away record, although not good, was better — 16 points against Saints' 11.

Bristol City and West Bromwich Albion promoted also fared less well than Sunderland at home, collecting 29 points apiece. But both clubs picked up 24 away points, more than double Saints' miserable total.

Even relegated Oxford picked up one more away point than Saints, while bottom-of-the-table Portsmouth matched their Hampshire neighbours on 11 points.

It must be particularly galling for manager Lawrie McMenemy, who has built an attractive, goal-scoring team. On top of their form, Saints were probably the best side in the division. I know many football writers who think so — but this could not be said of the performances in the majority of away games.

Real problem

Saints scored fewer away goals than any other team in the leading nine places, while they also conceded far too many. And that was the real problem. You can score two or even three goals, as Saints did at Blackpool, and there is no guarantee of a point, but you need a clean sheet and you must get one. Saints did this in only four away games this season.

The great Cup run has compensated fans for League disappointment, but the manager will certainly not be happy until First Division status is regained. Can this be achieved next season?

I believe it all depends on the defensive record; you cannot lose 13 away games and expect to go up. Somehow defensive stability must be built, either from within or without, and this is done then I think Saints will have a great chance.

Yet next season could be more difficult. There may be greater opposition from the relegated clubs than came this season, from Carlisle, Bolton and Chelsea, while Bolton will again be a force. And Chelsea, with their youngsters more experienced by a season, could really be major challengers. So many people agree that Saints possess players who should be in the First Division; now it is up to them to prove it on the pitch.



PETER RODRIGUES . . . Saints' skipper in a successful season.

SAINTS—Facts and Figures

1975

	Result	Scorers	Gate Lgs.
August			
16 WEST BROM. ALB. (h)	0-0	Holmes, Channon 2	15,245 6
23 NOTTS COUNTY (a)	0-0	Stokes 2, Peach	8,495 6
26 BRISTOL CITY (h)	3-1	Peach, Channon	16,833 1
29 PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (h)	1-0	Peach, Channon	19,000 1
September			
6 BOLTON WANDERERS (a)	0-3		9,188 3
9 PORTSMOUTH (h) (FA Cup 2nd round)	0-1		10,757 1
13 BLACKBURN ROVERS (h)	2-1	Stokes, Peach	13,279 2
20 BLACKPOOL (a)	3-4	Holmes, Steele	9,564 5
27 PORTSMOUTH (h)	4-0	Channon 3, Peach	17,310 5
October			
4 HULL CITY (a)	0-0		8,342 6
11 CHELSEA (h)	0-1	Channon, 2 (1 pen.), Stokes	21,227 8
18 NOTTINGHAM FOREST (a)	1-3	Osgood	12,677 8
21 OLDHAM ATHLETIC (a)	2-0	Holmes, 2	11,219 8
25 YORK CITY (h)	0-1	McCallig (pen.)	13,501 7
27 CHARLTON ATHLETIC (a)	1-4	Osgood	16,036 7
November			
8 LUTON TOWN (h)	3-1	McCallig, Stokes, Channon	13,885 7
15 ORIENT (a)	1-2	McCallig	6,332 9
22 NOTTM. FOREST (h)	0-3		14,245 11
29 CARLISLE UNITED (a)	0-1		6,977 12
December			
6 SUNDERLAND (h)	4-0	Osgood 2, Holmes, Blyth	17,598 11
13 NOTTS COUNTY (h)	2-1	McCallig (pen.)	12,571 9
19 WEST BROMWICH ALBION (a)	2-0	Peach, Channon	17,071 6
26 BRISTOL ROVERS (h)	3-0	Holmes, Stokes, Channon	18,556 4
27 OXFORD UNITED (a)	2-1	Stokes, Holmes	12,004 4
1976			
January			
7 ASTON VILLA (h) (FA Cup 3rd round)	1-1	Fisher	24,138 1
(FA Cup 1st replay)			
17 BOLTON WANDERERS (h)	2-1	McCallig 2	44,623 7
24 BLACKPOOL (h) (FA Cup 4th round)	3-1	Channon 2, Stokes	20,363 7
28 BLACKBURN ROVERS (a)	1-1	Osgood, Stokes	21,553 5
31 OLDHAM ATHLETIC (h)	3-2	Osgood, Stokes, Channon	8,785 5
February			
6 NOTTINGHAM CITY (a)	1-1	Holmes	22,316 6
14 WEST BROM. ALB. (a) (FA Cup 5th round)	1-1	Stokes	38,534 1
17 WEST BROM. ALB. (h) (FA Cup 1st replay)	4-0	Channon 3 (1 pen.), McCallig 2 (1 pen.)	18,814 1
21 ORIENT (h)	3-0	Stokes	17,230 5
24 FULHAM (h)	2-1	Blyth, Channon	23,575 4
28 YORK CITY (a)	1-2	Channon	3,777 5
March			
2 LUTON TOWN (a)	0-1	McCallig	13,737 5
6 NOTTINGHAM CITY (a) (FA Cup 5th round)	1-0		8,731 6
9 FUJAH (a)	0-1	Channon	20,011 5
12 NOTTS COUNTY (a)	1-1	Peach	16,004 5
20 CARLISLE UNITED (h)	0-3	McCallig	34,946 7
27 SUNDERLAND (a)	0-3		
April			
3 CRYSTAL PALACE (FA Cup semi-final)	2-0	Gilchrist, Peach (pen.)	52,810 5
6 PORTSMOUTH (a)	1-0	Channon	24,115 5
10 BLACKPOOL (h)	3-1	Peach (pen.)	21,758 6
12 CHARLTON ATH. (h)	3-2	Channon 2, McCallig	23,686 5
16 PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (a)	0-1		25,305 5
17 BRISTOL ROVERS (a)	0-2	C. Clarke	11,834 5
19 OXFORD UNITED (h)	2-1	Rodrigues 0.9.	18,870 5
24 HULL CITY (h)	1-0	Stokes	18,272 5
May			
1 MANCHESTER UNITED (FA Cup Final)	1-0		
49 Appearances: Channon 50, Peach 49, Rodrigues 49, Holmes 46, Blyth 45, Stokes 45, McCallig 44, Steele 39, Osgood 38, Fisher 33, Turner 32, Gilchrist 25, Bennett 22, McCallig 18, O'Brien (now Swindon) 16, Andruszewski 6, Waldron 2, Earles 1, Williams 1, Mills 1.			
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Goals: Channon 25, Holmes 21, McCallig 12, Osgood 12, Fisher 11, Gilchrist 10, Peach 9, Rodriguez 8, Steele 7, Blyth 6, O'Brien 5, Andruszewski 4, Earles 3, Williams 2, Mills 1.			
Appearances: Channon 50, Peach 49, Rodrigues 49, Holmes 46, Blyth 45, Stokes 45, McCallig 44, Steele 39, Osgood 38, Fisher 33, Turner 32, Gilchrist 25, Bennett 22, McCallig 18, O'Brien (now Swindon) 16, Andruszewski 6, Waldron 2, Earles 1, Williams 1, Mills 1.			
Played as substitutes: Earles 6, O'Brien 4, Osgood 4, Crabbie 2, Gilchrist 2, Stokes 1.			



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Waddington hits at three up, three down

FOOTBALL LEAGUE clubs are ready and willing to go back to two up and two down in the promotion and relegation stakes, according to a discreet poll of clubs in the top two divisions conducted by Stoke City. Tony Waddington, manager of the Potteries club, revealed this to me this week as we looked on a season that has been one of frustration for Stoke, but achievement for English football.

Said the First Division's longest-serving manager: "We have lobbied practically all the clubs for a two up and two down and there is a substantial majority wanting to go back to the old system. "I think it has been proved

without a shadow of doubt this season that three up and three down has done nothing but harm for the game."

"But unfortunately the system is likely to stay because of the Second Division clubs who see one extra chance of getting into the top flight has been lost."

"What they have failed to realise is that, if they have an extra chance of moving into the First Division, they also have an equal chance of dropping into the Third."

Added Mr. Waddington: "The game has taken a step forward this season in that the teams are playing open football. All this has happened in spite of the deterrent that people in the game have thrown upon them to vote for three up and three down."

*

For Mr. Waddington, a crusader of open, attacking football and a man who has gambled more than most on his future, the last twelve months have seen him hit rock bottom. The result of a change in the pattern of promotion and relegation has been to give an added layer of savagery to the game.

He claims: "Nobody wants to see desperate football. It detracts from the spectacle. From the entertainment value. And scratching about for success is not a good cheer or excitement even to a game of football. The game was competitive enough before, and it is now, we just need to make it a fruitless exercise."

Would Stoke make a point of this or try to move back two up and down at the Football League's annual meeting in midsummer? "If we thought there was a chance of success, which could be proved still further by the addition of a few more men," he said.

He had been given hope for the future by Saturday's performance when Ryde drew 2-2 with promotion-chasing Southampton.

He had been particularly pleased in recent games with the consistency of referee Brian Lovell, who had only played a handful of Hampshire League matches.

And in any case, after the frustrations of this season, which has seen Stoke so near

again, there is a lot of good there on the youth side. With a few more experienced players, he can hold their own in Division 2.

He hoped, too, that most of the present first team, bolstered by fresh players, could stay. Ryde had a good ground, facilities, an active supporters' organisation and a clubhouse. If the chairman started winning matches again, the supporters who had drifted away would return to the fold.

GIVEN HOPE

Mr. Williams, whose assistant is now in charge of the youth side, gave him unanimous backing.

Consequently, the name of Mr. Williams was the only one considered at the committee meeting and it was given unanimous backing.

Mr. Williams is stick to the Island-only policy that led to the first team's relegation and the humiliating Island League Division 1 results of the relegated Reserves.

But he adds that his task is easier than that of his predecessor, who had to build two sides from scratch in a short time. "I hope most of the players on whom to build and he hopes they will stay with the club. Reserves will be signing

again. There is a lot of good there on the youth side. With a few more experienced players, he can hold their own in Division 2."

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Peter Keeling's
MAN OF THE MOMENT
TONY WADDINGTON

yet so far from success, Mr. Waddington prefers to plan for next year rather than use up his energies tilting at windmills on behalf of other people.

Looking back, he says: "I thought we had a good Wembley chance, but domestic problems like Alan Huddersfield and Mike Pele cost us dear at the time we lost to Sunderland in the Cup."

"Then, after starting the season knowing we were a bit short of money, we lost both John Hutchins and Terry Conroy, to make the position virtually impossible."

"It says much for the ability of the side that we stayed in contention for the First Division title for so long."

Although Stoke have now put themselves back into a sound financial position after spending so heavily on men like Salmon, Shilton and Hudson, the general economic problems we've caused the game has a lot of difficulties ahead.

Reasons Mr. Waddington: "This means there will be more players released than ever this season. The economic climate, plus the spectre of the new freedom of contract, will lead to clubs cutting down tremendously."

"I feel that, in campaigning for this totally unnecessary freedom of contract, the PFA have cut the throats of their own members. A limited number of star players will benefit by the new legislation but the three-man committee needed would probably make it a fruitless exercise," replied Mr. Waddington.

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again.

had a direct bearing on the relegation issue because, as a result of a genuine misunderstanding, we were recorded as having beaten Netley Central.

That meant that, according to the official records, the North Hampshire side were still in with a chance of escaping going down.

White Cowes and the Vics had won anticlimacically. Brading supporters are looking forward to Hampshire League Division 1 football at Vicarage Lane, next season.

As they showed in holding Newport to a goalless extra-time draw in the Island Senior Cup final, Brading are ready to take on the top grade. Only a goalless draw.

But manager Reg Langdon, who has proved such a tailor-made successor to the re-doubtable Hugh Squibb, has no doubt promotion will be his main prize possession this season.

"That is our No. 1 priority," he told me, "but naturally, he will be delighted if Brading can make it a hat-trick by

winning the Hampshire Intermediate Cup and the Island Senior Cup."

Langdon is also a realist and he is looking forward to the promotion battle.

Although doomed to Division 3 status, he is looking to the future with optimism. The 1975-76 Hampshire Senior Cup winners and promotion contenders, Saints A, to a goalless draw.

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As the season draws to a close, Sandown are counting their blessings instead of pounding unwilling ears with handclaps.

Manager Peter Groves said: "I suppose like most clubs we've had our difficult spells with injuries and other setbacks, but taking things all round we've done a jet better

than most people thought we would."

"With just a bit of luck we might have finished higher up the table. Our main achievement has been to lay down the foundations of a happy and successful club."

Mr. Groves added: "Another achievement has been the promotion of the Reserve side into Division 1 of the Island League. This is going to make a big difference when we look to the future."

Brading can thank their neighbours, Ryde Sports, for casting them a kind eye at the stage of the promotion battle.

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MAYBUSH WIN VIKING



MAYBUSH HOTEL, pictured after winning the Commercial Houses Sunday League's top division in the final with goals by John Turner, Micky Turner, Angus Steele and Wayne Viking. Company 4—1 in the final with Hughes, K. Williams, M. Dakk (captain), M. Dear, A. Steel, J. King, G. Steele, M. Steele, front row: M. Dakk, P. Williams, J. Moody. Back row, left to right: L. Carnana, W. Chafe.



The Weston Park under-16 squad have won the Boss Charrington Trophy and the Duncan and Prevett Cup this season, and are Hampshire's representatives in the National Schools Trophy.

Pictured are (left to right) — back row: S. Bywater (manager), S. Jones, N. Jackman, A. Kendall, M. Reed, T. Campbell; front row: R. Oliphant, P. Conroy, W. Bowers, R. Eastmond (capt.), D. Kimber, S. Squibb.

ISLE OF WIGHT ROUND-UP

with Maurice Leppard

Cowes last act worthy of thriller writer



SOUTHAMPTON Sunday League President Mr. Alf Miller presents his A. J. Miller Trophy to Old Shirley's winning captain Brian Read.

It was Read's penalty which put his side back in the match after a long high ball into Old Shirley's

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ly against a side of Island Managers. "After clearing experiences, we should finish up with around £75," said Mr. Hatchet.

Since quitting the professional scene, the bank overdrafts Sandown have sunk. "With special summer promotions and a promised return visit by Pompey, we should start with a clean slate next season," said Mr. Hatchet.

Economy will be the order of the day at Church Littton next season. Chairman Roy Devi has carried out a survey of Newports running costs and that check has been approved by the club's management committee.

Mr. Devi declined to comment whether these would have any effect on the amount paid to players.

Having completed a successful season a few months ago, which resulted in UBM, leasing part of the Church Littton ground, he and his committee are looking forward to the new season.

Stuart Ken Hatchet is sure Sandown fortunes are now on the upswing. "This is largely due to the enthusiasm of Brian Arnold, who runs the Reserve side. Both are well-liked by players and this counts for a lot."

Mr. Hatchet said: "The outlook at Fairway Park is brighter all round than it has been for a good many seasons."

On the financial side, club funds received a welcome boost through the visit of a Portsmouth XI to Fairway Park last Sunday for a friendly.

"To avoid that happening we have to do our best," he stressed. Newports will kick off next season on August 7 with an attractive home fixture against Isthmian side Leatherhead.

Looking at the Southern League

Hughes prepares his blueprint

SALISBURY'S blueprint for promotion next season should be completed within the next week or two as manager Mike Hughes wraps up his dealings in the transfer market.

He is currently waiting for an answer from two players he has had his sights on for some time, and their reply is likely to be as three others lined up in reserve.

Hughes has also run the rule over two of Weymouth's list of axed players, Dave Whitehead and Chris Ford, both of whom were in action at Victoria Park in Monday's Floodlight League match.

His search is being concentrated on the midfield department of his team, but his need for a new defender to

replace Glen Stride may be solved much closer to home. Mick O'Connor, the young defender who has not been offered a contract for next season following a year checked by injury, has really impressed manager Hughes since his comeback. He has been playing really well since he came back into the team and has "done everything better so I might keep him on after all," said Mr. Hughes.

But, while the manager concentrates on the delicate

business of negotiating for new professionals, Salisbury hope that the club can unearth another couple of gems from the local leagues for next season.

What I am hoping is that,

because of our successful

season and Bobby Andrews

has come in and made the

first team, others will come

forward, he said.

"There must be others

around who are as good as

these two were last season. If

Underhill will go onto attack

By ANDY LEVER

AFTER another disappointing season at the Walled Meadow, new manager Eric Underhill says he is going to bring back "orthodox attacking football"

BASINGSTOKE END UP AS 'RESPECTABLE'

BASINGSTOKE TOWN can look back at the past season quite favourably, for they finish their Southern League programme averaging a point a match and finish in a respectable position in the top half of the table.

Considering the ups and downs the club has gone through since the start, this is satisfactory, for, after only seven league matches had been played and the points gained were nil in October, Cliff Huxford, the team manager, was forced by financial reasons

to release the two Army players, John Robson and Bobby Taylor, the manager, Tom Davies, of his duties, and Tom Davies, the general manager, took over team selection as well as his other duties.

Chris Scott was the next to go: this was due to having to eat the wage bill to help pay for the continuing £5,000 tax bill the club were ordered to pay within 12 months.

Edgar Street will buzz

HEREFORD UNITED's promotion to the Second Division adds a lot of interest to local football next season. Matches against Steven United, Nottingham Forest and Chelsea will sound like Cup ties, and there is certain to be a tremendous atmosphere for League matches at Edgar Street.

In Sillett, the Hereford manager, and his staff, confident United will do well in Division 2, and there is even talk behind the scenes of further promotion.

Mr. Sillett is satisfied, how-

ever, to take things one season at a time, and he is wise enough to always keep an open mind to know that problems are sure to arise in a more demanding sphere of competition.

This training will include set-pieces. This season, Andy dove wasted many chances from free-kicks, close to goal, and it is by knowing what their colleagues were doing. There will also be practice on corners and penalties.

The manager thinks he has the makings of a first-class player in Tony Kebby. McFadzean, the manager, has Kebby on special training twice a week during the summer "to put some weight on him."

The curtain comes down on the season next week when New Town play the Pauls on Monday in the Floodlight League; then Salisbury travel to Huish the following night for the return.

Says Mr. Hughes: "A lot of people were watching Dave off

for years, but he worked

down to it well, he went out

to get himself worked very

hard and lost weight."

The same goes for Barry Fitch. They both worked far harder than I expected them to, and they have both come through really well and a good season."

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HAMPSHIRE SOCCER TALK

by Peter East

FORMS ARE BOUND TO HAVE ERRORS

WELL OVER a thousand soccer clubs throughout Hampshire will be compiling their annual registration forms which have to be returned every summer to the county football association's offices in Southampton, and it is certain that some of those forms will be wrongly completed.

The only uncertainty concerns the forms which will be made between now and July 1, the deadline for return of the forms.

But sorting out incorrect forms has been an annual problem for Hampshire F.A. officials and the matter reached a peak last year when the number of mistakes threw the Sunday cups into chaos.

One of the most common errors of the past has been that junior clubs who play on Sundays have been put into Hampshire's Saturday cups simply because they have not made it clear which cup they wanted to enter.

PRECAUTIONS

Another is that they have failed to state which division of a particular league they play in and that has resulted in them going into a cup instead of the wrong status; A instead of B or vice-versa.

This summer, the Hampshire F.A. are hoping clubs will get it right and have taken special precautions in order to help ease the problem.

First, they have the word "Sunday" in red on the form and "Saturday" in black; so that, when the inapplicable word has been deleted, there will be no other guide for officials to follow.

Second, but equally important, is the fact that there will be close liaison between the Hampshire F.A. and the leagues—or sanctioned competitions, as they are known in official terms—just in case a club gets into more promotion than it expects.

AT FINGERIPS

Some league secretaries will check the entries of their teams against the constitution of their leagues to ensure the form is correct before the cup committee prepare the lists for the draws to be made.

It would be nice if all were able to do this while another thing which could help would be for all leagues to send their constitutions in to the Hampshire F.A. when they are formed.

In that way, someone in an official position would have the full picture at his fingertips and the problems of not being deceived if not banished altogether.

Other problems for the Hampshire officials are caused when clubs make late changes without notifying the competition or, in some cases, neither.

OVERLOOKED

If a secretary leaves a club after completing a form and sending it to the county, he must be informed. Otherwise,

all correspondence from Hampshire to the club is sent directly to the new secretary.

Changes of club colours are sometimes made at a late hour, too, and this can cause trouble if the details of the changes are not made available to the information concerning a club's pitch.

Another point often overlooked is the fact that a club are required to supply the Hampshire F.A. with the name of their chairman or president in addition to that of the secretary. Then, if contact with a club's secretary is lost, down the line, officials have an alternative in order to maintain communications.

HAMPSHIRE LEAGUE TABLES

Including April 24.

DIVISION 1

P W D L F A P

Brockhurst 30 16 8 6 52 35 40

Stobling 30 16 8 6 52 36 40

Arreton 30 16 8 6 52 31 36

Gosport 29 13 8 6 55 39 34

Portsmouth 29 13 8 6 52 33 30

Petersfield 29 13 8 6 43 42 33

Nettles 30 11 8 11 41 42 30

Monkseaton 30 10 8 13 43 48 30

Overton 30 10 8 13 43 47 27

Southampton 30 9 8 13 43 47 27

Winchester 30 9 8 13 43 47 27

East Cowes 30 8 6 16 40 62 53

R.A.P.C. 28 2 3 6 28 10 7

Fleet 29 5 8 16 37 55 18

Penshurst 29 5 8 16 37 55 18

Romsey 28 20 5 8 35 59 25 45

Braiding 27 18 5 8 47 27 41

Wansash 29 15 5 8 55 29 39

Southwick 30 9 8 13 43 48 30

Soton A 26 14 5 8 42 17 36

Portsmouth 25 11 8 10 45 58 30

Sholing 29 11 6 13 44 45 28

Woolmerston 28 10 8 10 34 32 28

P.M.'n R 30 8 11 11 44 45 27

Totton 29 10 8 11 44 45 27

Portsmouth' n 29 8 9 16 34 54 21

Fleet 28 2 3 6 28 10 7

One point deducted for failing

to send in the entries from Hampshire to the club is sent directly to the new secretary. Some clubs send the cash but fail to complete their cup entries while others fill in the entries but omit to send the cash.

On reflection, most of these mistakes would appear to stem from the fact that some secretaries fill their forms out in a tearing rush and make mistakes and omissions through sheer haste.

A little more thought and a little more time could save them and the county officials an awful lot of trouble at the end of the summer.

SOUTHAMPTON SCENE

by Bob Brunsell



THE successful West End Junior Division 2 title—their first ever trophies. In the row, left to right: J. Kinchington (chairman), D. Street (manager), J. Smith, I. Wyeth, C. Coombes, B. Willis, D. Noyce, J. Smith (assistant manager), T. Reed, G. H. Box, S. Sims, R. Satch, L. Windust, K. Shrimpton, L. Banger, M. Taylor.

YMCA's bid for higher status aided

YMCA capped a remarkable six-year record in the Southampton F.A. Premier Division when they clinched the title on Monday thanks to a convincing 4-1 victory over North End Old Boys at Weekes.

It was YMCA's second title success and since they gained promotion to Division 1 in 1969, they have finished as runners-up three times and once in fourth place.

That record is a great tribute to their manager Bobby Hunt, who had a strong team together for long. Now he hopes this latest success will

strengthen their application to join the Hampshire League.

But spare a thought for Testwood, who miss out by just a point. After winning the title last season, they found themselves in mid-table; but, in the end, the trophy slipped out of their grasp.

North End Old Boys, on the receiving end, are YMCA's having had a remarkable season after achieving a "chance" promotion from Division 1 when former players were axed from the Premier.

They could have finished third if they'd won or drawn with YMCA; but had to settle for fourth behind the team who won in contention right up to the final weeks of the season—good going after winning division 2 last term.

Testwood's remarkable run of the top spot in Senior Division 1 and their consistency brought all the good-wishes of success, just as season after being relegated from the Premier Division.

Meanwhile, Spire, Motifont and Polmwood settled into the title race early on, but it was Millbrook and Maybush who stayed the sterner and kept Newlands right on their toes until the final weeks of the season.

David Williams brought all the experience he gleaned by playing and coaching in the Hampshire League bar in his first season as player-manager of Hythe and Bidben. He led them to a convincing Second Division title success over Testwood Reserves, who totered uncertainly through the last third of the season and the end just faded above Old Edwards.

It looked as though Thorney and Hythe United would make a strong bid for promotion but both fell away badly, Hythe just avoiding the relegation places.

SERIOUS RIVALS

Eastleigh Spire arrived in Junior Division 5 after winning the Second Division title and lived up to expectations, finishing second to Swannmore Old Boys, and North End Old Boys and Redbridge Rovers had title aspirations at one time but as they slumped Hythe and Bidben moved up and just missed out on the promotion places.

West End Spire made do for the first team, narrowly missing out on Premier Division honours by winning both Junior Division 1 and the Junior Division Final. North End and Lyndhurst proved their most serious rivals after Moorhill and ISR crumbled after a good start.

Taking three points from their nearest rivals Win or United in the final run-in, Lyndhurst took the Division 5 title by four points from Hythe and Bidben. Brendon hit their best form at the end of the season—a superb bit of timing.

After finishing as runners-up in Divisions 7 and 5, Chandler's Ford Boys' Club managed to hold on to the title last year by winning Division 4. KMPS always looked the likely winners but dropped out, leaving three of them last in the promotion. And there was a double disappointment for the Polish side when they lost to West End in the Junior Cup final.

CONCLUSIVE WINNERS

Division 5 was very much a two-horse race between Globe and Bardie. Globe settling it with a win over their nearest rivals just a couple of weeks ago. Cygnets were always poised waiting for the two of them to zap up and Bradfield finished strongly to take fifth spot.

Ashby, beaten only in their final game, were the winners of Division 6 by eight points from Chandler's Ford. Hythe did not fulfil their Senior Division 2 fixture with Old Edwardians; NDLB Reserves, whose first team were disbanded, Old Simmarians their Division 2 match against Lyndhurst. In each case their opponents were awarded both points.

Southampton FA have received several applications from new clubs wishing to join the Junior League, among them one from the successful Eastleigh Ensigns.

Four years ago as an under-16 side in the Eastleigh Minor Leagues they have collected no less than 30 cup games in the last three seasons coming in the Eastleigh Junior League.

The club have also won the Eastleigh under-18 League and

finished second in the Winchester Sunday League.

A couple of years ago they won the Southern Area Championship in the Daily Express' five-a-side competition and have only recently completed a successful first season in the Senior League.

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Four years ago as an under-1

Around the local leagues

NOW BRANSGORE WILL GO FOR A TREBLE

NEW FOREST League Division 1 champions Bransgore completed the second leg of their treble bid with a 3-0 win over Premier Division side BAT in the final of the Perkins Cup at Lymington.

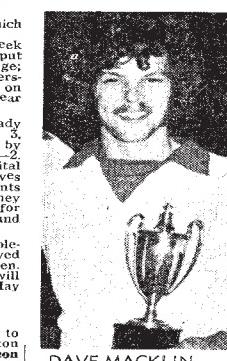
Their third title win of the season could well come in the final of the Kewlake Cup when they meet Southdown United at Ringwood next Friday.

BAT looked the stronger early on in the first half. But there was no score at half-time. Then Bransgore came forward and K. Carter put them top on goal average; then a 2-0 win over runners-up Sherfield Reserves on Saturday makes them clear winners.

Buckskin Reserves, already clear winners of Division 3, had a tough start by beating Flame Athletic 3-0. Abbey Sports had their vital match against Jubilee Reserves off by default, so they have had to wait to see if they can overtake Cliddesden for the runners-up trophy and promotion.

On Saturday the final of the Supplementary Cup B will be played on Monday DCS v Cliddesden. It is hoped the two finals will be played at Sherfield on May 15.

★



DAVE MACKLIN... captain of winning Wellington Reserves sixes.

them a point for a corner. However, it was the more polished attacking of Dave Soberon and Dennis Tilly which put Wellington well ahead with the reinforcements by the Blunts women's section.

The senior competition, for Division 1, was also entered for the tournament, played again at Hoe Road, Bishop's Waltham, where the facilities were excellent. The Brothers and the representatives by the Blunts women's section.

Though outclassed, Meon-

stoke showed great tenacity.

Miles fought for every ball

and Kevin Matthews frequently looked dangerous, taking shots at goal which nearly came off.

After further goals by Wel-

lington, Meonstoke missed a chance to catch when John Phillips put a penalty past the bar, but he made up for it by scoring soon afterwards

in the first half past "Kipper".

Half an afternoon. The match ended 20-6 in favour of the holders.

LEADER OF THE FIELD

It was against Dorsetshire, at Darley Dale, that Hampshire clinched the John Player League title last summer. On

that occasion, with Alan Ward

bowling erratically, Hamp-

shire were given a dream

start by a 100-0 lead from

Greenidge, each of whom

scored 50s.

Hampshire will be taking on

Dorsetshire without the dash-

ing Greenidge, while they can

break his nose when trying

to hook a ball from Tom

Brown three matches later

and, after a spell out of the

side, was slow to regain his

form and form.

Since that match against the

West Indies, the left-

handed Turner has done well

against touring sides. He

has not, yet, shown the consistency

expected of Test players.

Turner scored the first of his

ten centuries for Hampshire—

that is, not against Surrey, as

he had an 800-0 lead from

Basingstoke, in 1974. But all

too often Jesty, who made his

debut in 1973, has been

out of form since May and

is likely to be out again tomorrow.

He has been near on a few

occasions, but not least when

he took 90 wickets at

Basingstoke, in 1974. But all

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Page 8 SPORTS ECHO — Saturday, May 1, 1976

**WATCH OUT
FOR THE
Southampton
Chamber of Commerce
125th Anniversary
Supplement**

APPEARING IN OUR ISSUE OF NEXT
TUESDAY, MAY 4



JERSEY

AIR AND SEA HOLIDAYS FROM THE JERSEY
HOLIDAY SPECIALISTS

4 DAYS (including Car Hire)	from £32
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8 DAYS (High Season)	from £58

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7 days COACH, Depart May 22

Inclusive all coach transport (local pick-ups), hotel and accommodation (all rooms have colour TV, hotel is seafront with lift), full-day tour to Canterbury and afternoon scenic drive, holiday insurance and VAT.

SOUTHPORT ★
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7 days COACH. Depart May 29th
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Inclusive all coach transport (local pick-ups), hotel ROYAL HOTEL, AA/RAC (***), and accommodation and two full-day tours of the Dales, holiday insurance and VAT.

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Today's racing results

WALWYN'S 'TOPPER'

ASCOT

12.45—Garter Stakes (2 y-o), 5f.
PRIOR'S WALK F. Curr 1
TEDDINGTON PARK J. Mercer 1
SAUVE QUI PEUT W. Carson 3
Winner trained by R. Hannan.
SP: 6—1, 10—1, 20—1.
9 ran.

Won by 1½ lengths: 4.
Tote Win 16p. Places 11p. 15p.
15p. Dual forecast 23p.

1.15—Top Rank Club
Victoria Cup (Handicap), 1m.
RECORD TOKEN P. Eddery 1
RHODOMANTADE G. Baxter 2
ROZEL BUOY L. Argott 3
BERKELEY SQUARE B. R. Davies 4
Winner trained by P. Walwyn.
SP: 6—1, 12—1, 10—1, 2—1.
14 ran.

Won by 1½ lengths: ¾-length.
Tote Win 68p. Places 26p. 49p.
43p.

1.50—White Rose Stakes
(3-y-o). G. and F. 11m.
TIERRA VIEJO G. Baxter 1
RAGOTINA G. Baxter 2
LOST CHORD P. Eddery 3
Winner trained by C. Brittain.
SP: 10—1, 4—1, 33—1, 11—10 fav.
9 ran.

Won by head: same.
Tote Win £1.05. Places 26p.
65p. 15p. Dual forecast 12.12.

2.20—Crocker Bultee Stakes
(Handicap), 5f.

OVERTURNED J. Mercer 1
RAFFIA SET E. Hide 2
FARIDINA W. Carson 3
Winner trained by R. Turnell.
SP: 1—1, 7—1, 6—1, 7—2 fav.
fav. Struck.

Won by necks: 1½ lengths.
Tote Win £1.07. Places 29p.
27p. 26p. Dual forecast £2.63.

2.50—Paradise Stakes, 2m.
MARCO RICCI L. Pigott 1
MAJOR GREEN B. Taylor 2
MAY QUEEN P. Eddery 3
Winner trained by H. Hills.
SP: 7—1, 9—4 fav., 7—2.
9 ran.

Won by necks: Head.
Tote Win 62p. Places 17p. 15p.
14p. Dual forecast £1.54.

3.20—Chobham App Stakes
(Handicap), 1m.

COMET KOHOUTEK M. Sim 1
SOURIS FINNE J. Mercer 1
KILBIRGAE W. Wharton 3
Winner trained by G. Harwood.
SP: 6—1, 9—1, 20—1, 5—2 fav. French Flinders.

13 ran.

Won by ¾-length: Head.
Tote Win 75p. Places 37p. 60p.
£1.12. Dual forecast £1.05.
Tickets 38, pool £2,084.50.

PETER WALWYN continued a highly-successful start to the Flat season by topping the £20,000 mark in prize-money when Record Token won clean in the last furlong in the 2000 Guineas, his third victory at the Top Rank Club Victoria Cup at ASCOT this afternoon.

Despite a 5lb penalty for scoring at Kempton on Easter, Berkeley Square was backed down to 2—1 favourite to repeat the feat. His prospects looked good when he led approaching halfway, but Pat Eddery had Record Token in a challenging position on the outside.

Record Token then quickened in fine style and, in the lead with a furlong left, beat Rhodomantade by 1½ lengths. That horse now has a date at the Royal meeting in the Queen Anne Stakes.

Tote total, total win £110.30.
Ticket 17, pool 22,659.50.
Jackpot with £2,424.20, tickets
50, paid on first 4 lengths.

1.15—Fenwick App (S)
Stakes (Handicap), 1m.

DRUMADORN M. Sim 1
ALL STAR H. Newton 2
BECHWOOD LAID D. Nicholls 3
Winner trained by P. Wisham.
SP: 10—1, 12—1, 13—2, 9—4 fav.

14 ran. Non-runner: Seadora.
Won by 2½ lengths: some.
Tote Win £1.04. Places 24p.
25p. 21p.

12.45—Tickton Juvenile
Stakes (2-y-o), 5f.

WILLIE DOBSON P. Cook 1
LISCALLANOR LASS E. Apter 2
ABERKLAIN B. Raymond 3
Winner trained by G. Peter Hoblyn.

SP: 5—1, 14—1, 5—1, 7—2 fav. Gold Pearl.

10 ran. Kirby withdrawn (not
farther up necks).
Won by 3 lengths: length.
Tote Win 36p. Places 16p. 38p.
24p.

1.15—Charles Elsey
Memorial Challenge
Trophy (Handicap), 1m.

HIGH SEASON R. Marshall 1
POT LUCK F. Morby 2
BEVERLY BOY E. Apter 3
Winner trained by W. Marshall.
SP: 11—1, 2—1 H. fav., 2—1 fav.

6 ran.

Won by necks: 1½ lengths.
Tote Win £1.04. Places 37p.
21p. Forecast £2.51.

1.45—Dalton Holmes Stakes,
1m.

DUBONN E. Johnson 1
GREY SAIL S. Freeman 2
DONRAE E. Apter 3
Winner trained by B. Hills.
SP: 8—11 fav., 13—2, 9—2, 7 ran.

Tote Win 17p. Places 11p. 21p.
Dual forecast 30p.

2.20—Anlaby (M) Stakes
(3-y-o), 2m.

QUARTET R. Marshall 1
HAUNTING MUSIC B. Raymond 2
CARRIBEG PRINCE J. Higgins 3
Winner trained by W. Marshall.
SP: 5—2, 10—1, 5—1, 9—1, 6 ran.

Won by 4 lengths: same.
Tote Win 46p. Places 15p. 10½p.
Forecast 22p.

2.45—Swanland Stakes
(Handicap), 5f.

HABERDASHER P. Cook 1
SILVER TINKLE M. Birch 2
BLIND LIAIR M. L. Thomas 3
Winner trained by G. Peter Hoblyn.

SP: 4—1 fav., 10—1, 5—1, 7 ran.

Won by 1½ lengths: ¾-length.

Tote Win 75p. Places 21p. 42p.
26p.

Daily double £14.75, ticks 22, pool £453.

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1.45—Market Rasen

12.30—Thurstope (S)

Hurdle, 2m.

JUST ARRIVED B. R. Davies 1
SUPER PRINCE P. Millington 2

PASKO K. McCauley 3

Winner trained by S. Norton.
SP: 6—4 fav., 8—1, 5—2, 8 ran.

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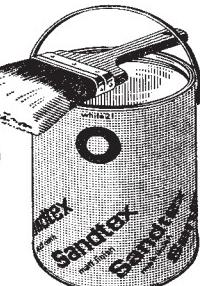
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AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL RESULTS

Division One: Croydon 1, West Ham 0; Green Gully 4, Melbourne 1; St. Albans 0, Western 0; Keilor City 1.

Division Two: Dowton 0, Farnham 2; Heidelberg 2, Richmond 2; Keilor 0, Newport 0; Moreland 1, Wantirna 2; Werribee Park 0; Bayswater 0, Springvale 2; Brighton 0 (abandoned after 22 minutes).

Division Three: Chelsea 1, Eltham 4; Doncaster 2, Coburg Utd. 2; Carlton 1, Bell Pk. Utd. 2; Rangers 2, Prahran 1; Pt. Melbourne 1, Collingwood 2; Port Melbourne Football Caulfield C. 1, 4; Ballarat 4; Mornington 0; Sandringham 0; Cleve 1; Corio Monash 1; Essendon 0; Broadmeadows 3; S. Yarra 1; Rosebud 7.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Division One: Azurri Polonia 0; Melbourne 0; Carlton 0; Elizabeth 0; Beagrad 3; Lion 0; Hellas 1; Victoria 0; Juventus 2; Munno 1; Don Birkdale 0; Morphett Vale Para Hills 2; Morphett Vale 2; Pt. Adelaide 0; Windsor 1; Maita 1; Flinders 1; Mitchell 2; Port 1; Adelaide 3; Woodville 3; University 1; WRE 3; SAIOF 0; W. Torrens 1; Salesbury 7.

NSW FEDERATION

Division One: Sydney 3, Wests 2.

Division Two: Canterbury 2; Yugal 0; Toongabbie 2; Banks 3.

Division Three: Belmore 6; University 6; Gladysvale 3; Canterbury 3; Parramatta Corinthians 3.

NSW INTER-SUBURBAN

Division One: Artarmon 0; Yarraville 1; Ryde 1.

Division Two: Hurstville 2; Sydney U. 3; Kingsford 1; Bankstown 3.

QUEENSLAND

Division Two: Annerley 2; Taringa 0; Goodna 1; Mitchelton 1; Oxley 6; Trident 2; Souths Utd. 3; Rothes Utd. 0; Wynnum 3.

TASMANIA NORTH

Ampo State Cup: Preliminary round: Hobart 0, Leonards 0; Tasmania 3, Launceston C. 1.

TASMANIA SOUTH

Ampo State Cup: Preliminary round: Croatia 1; Metro 2; Olympia 4; Calies 2; Rapids 17; Salvo 6; St. Mirre 4; Malaysian Tigers 0.

WEST AUSTRALIA

Division One: Azurri v Kicv

TOWN THROUGH

BASINGSTOKE TOWNS are through to the final of the North Hants' Invitation Cup. In the semi-final they repelled against Overton at the Camrose ground last night. László Fazekas, 29-year-old veteran of internationals, scored the only goal in the 45th minute.

HUNGARY WIN

HUNGARY, with a team that included several internationals, beat Switzerland 1-0 in a friendly in Lausanne last night. László Fazekas, 29-year-old veteran of internationals, scored the only goal in the 45th minute.

PAISLEY'S AWARD

BOB PAISLEY, of Liverpool, currently chasing the League and UEFA Cup double, has been named manager of the month for April by the Bell's Scotch whisky awards panel.

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ROMSEY, The Over 80s Club, Linden Road, Monday 7.30 pm. (Southampton 555660).

WINCHESTER, Holy Trinity Hall, Upper Brook Street, Thursday 7.30 pm. (Southampton 21969).

EASTBOURNE, Holy Cross Church Hall, Leigh Road, Wednesday 7 pm. (Southampton 69151).

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Happy Saints fans pictured on their way to Wembley from Waterloo Station today

SOLENT TRIUMPH

THE SOLENT under-21 Rugby team beat Dorset under-21s 21-10 at Southampton last night through tries by Cockrell (Portsmouth, 2), Syddall (Havant), Garvin and Copland (Southampton). Score: 10-10 after four conversions and two penalties from King (Havant).

Derbyshire players arrived at headquarters this morning to learn that they had won the road cruiser which chairman George Hughes has made available to take the players to all away matches.

Derbyshire used it for the first time today to travel to the South Coast to meet Hampshire.

Rangers beat Dorset 21-10.

The coach, which used to belong to the London Playboy Club, has individual armchairs, radios, stereo with individual earphones, television and fitted carpets throughout.

MATEO NAMED

THE European Boxing Union have named Jean Mateo (France) as official challenger for the European middleweight title held by Britain's Bunny Sterling.

The coach, which used to belong to the London Playboy Club, has individual armchairs,

radios, stereo with individual earphones, television and fitted carpets throughout.

PAISLEY'S AWARD

BOB PAISLEY, of Liverpool, currently chasing the League and UEFA Cup double, has been named manager of the month for April by the Bell's Scotch whisky awards panel.

TELEVIEWS

We were in that number...

HEARTS bursting with pride, the Southampton fans marched on the FA roared their support. They bellowed with fervour never known in the South. They stunned their critics into open-mouthed wonder.

With a glorious display of yellow and blue, of balloons and banners, they rose — as a man — to back the Saints with everything they had. Undismayed andundaunted by the ballyhoo that heralded the Devil's fall, they unashamedly sang the song that rings round the Dell and the word SAINTS came resounding through.

Despite theordes of fanatical fans from the North and the apparent pro-Manchester bias of commentators, punters on both TV channels, the home-bound viewers

were left in no doubt. Southampton were there. The Saints' "Champion Is Bionic," "Save all your kisses for the Saints Bye-Bye United, Bye-Bye, " "Hearts United, the Saints" and "McMenamins Super Marvels" soared and waned from the terraces and the stands.

They wanted to be there in that number, they expected to be there, everyone most surely did. Millions, all round the world, knew this afternoon that the fans in the fan areas, most surely, were... SUPER!

At Lord's, the coach, adorned with yellow and blue ribbons, was full of laughter. The wise cracks and places maintained the confident mood which has been in evidence throughout the build-up to the game itself.

A mass of yellow and blue ribbons, each meeting, the sponsor will present a case of champagne to the racegoer who selects the first three horses correctly and of finishing in the third race on the programme.

At each of Windsor's ten evening meetings, the sponsors will present a case of champagne to the racegoer who selects the first three horses correctly and of finishing in the third race on the programme.

In the main event, and the probable third race on next week's card, is the Queen Anne's Handicap over one mile, three furlongs and about 150 yards.

The most successful rider at Windsor for the past two seasons has been Paul Eddie. Last season he topped the jockeys' table with 12 winners and in 1974 he shared riding honours with Lester Piggott, each having 11 victories to his credit.

Further evening meetings at Windsor in May are scheduled for Monday 10 and Monday 17.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITIES V KENT

At Oxford.

MIDDLESEX V NORWICH CITY

At Lord's.

LEICESTERSHIRE V MINOR COUNTIES WEST

At Leicestershire.

MIDDLESEX V NORTHERN COUNTIES WEST

At Lord's.

OPEN STAFFORDSHIRE V ROYAL WORCESTERSHIRE

At Shrewsbury.

SHANKLIN AND SANDOWN

At Shanklin.

OPEN STAFFORDSHIRE V ROYAL WORCESTERSHIRE

At Shrewsbury.

LEICESTERSHIRE V NORTHERN COUNTIES WEST

At Leicestershire.

OPEN STAFFORDSHIRE V ROYAL WORCESTERSHIRE

At Shrewsbury.

OPEN STAFFORDSHIRE V ROYAL WORCESTERSHIRE

Page 10 SPORTS ECHO — Saturday, May 1, 1976

Respectability in final flourish

By CHRIS MARDELL

A POSITION of respectability has been Alton Town's modest aim ever since the turning point in a disappointing season, which saw their Athenian League title hopes swallowed up in a tidal wave of injury and unavailability problems.

And they have achieved their target with a final flourish of three successive victories which leaves them in tenth place, just a few points behind the Division One pacemakers, who still have a few games to play.

Huge cup defeats have plagued Alton through difficulties. They conceded 11 goals at the hands of Southern League neighbours Basingstoke in the FA Cup, trophy competition, and another six against Farnborough in the Hampshire Senior Cup.

Manager Paul Harms finally decided that his first season at the Anstey Park helm would also be his last after yet another cup defeat, this time the Athenian League Cup.

HARMONY

But through it all Harms maintained a spirit of togetherness among the Alton team. He has managed to bring in young players from the like of Waterloo, Mick Gee, Len Phillips, Barry Dyer, Alastair Macdonald and Michael Ward

They were later joined by other familiar names from the Portsmouth scene, Gordon Johnson, Alan Havant and Len Macdonald; Dave Selby and Paul Skeggs.

Ironically, the togetherness that saw Alton through thick and thin this season could now prove problematical.

Harms successfully fostered comradeship among his players and encouraged them to play with pride under the Alton Town banner.

But the danger, now that Harms has resigned, is that he will leave Anstey Park just as they arrived — together.

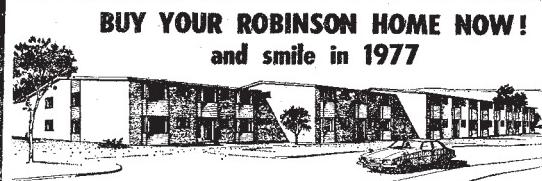
NALGO NEED FIXTURES

Southampton Nalgo Cricket Club need Saturday fixtures on July 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and August 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

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THE new Southampton Sunday League outfit, joint Road Sea, who took the Premier Division title at the first attempt.

Fronted, back row, left to right: Peter Price (manager), Ian Calder, Alan Judd, Paul Grant, Mick O'Neill, Bobby Williams, Lee Hunter, Tony Alford (secretary), front row: Steve Budden, Mick Farmer, Dave Williams, Graham Hounsell, Martin Parker, Cliff Roberts.

Minehead must wait

The splendid form of goalkeeper Ray Goddard for Millwall in the season's closing weeks suggests Minehead, the Southern League club, will have to wait for further payments in connection with the transfer of Nicky Johns, their goalkeeper, to the south London club in February. It was agreed a further fee would be paid to the Somerset club when Johns had made a specified number of League appearances.

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SOUTHAMPTON FA LEADING GOAL-SCORERS

Premier Division: P. Parker (Testwood) 25, G. Hayes (Y.M.C.A.) 20, Death (Testwood) 19, Edwards (M.A.C.) 18, Hagger (Old Tauntonians) 15, Ellaway (Y.M.C.A.) 14, (West End) 13.

Senior Division: Emery (Mofstons) 21, Handley (Bishopstoke) 18, (West End) 15, Ordnance Survey 14, Armstrong (Follands) 14, Whittle (Gosport WM Hospitals) 13, Flood (Newlands) 13, Stanisstreet (Newlands) 13, Hythe and Dibden 12, Murphy (Hythe and Dibden) 12, Jackson (Old

Edwardians) 12, Sturgess (Testwood) 12, Bradbury (Old Edwardians) 13, Fosythe (Vesper) 13, Spencer (Bishop's Waltham) 13.

Junior Division: 1. Churcher (Leigh Spartans) 13, Jones (B.T.C.) 17, Manchester (Sarisbury Street) 16, Currie (Southgate Spartans) 17, Rumsey (Old Tonians) 16, Moore (Swanmore) 16, (West End) 15.

Division 2: McLeish (Shirley) 26, Smith (West End) 21, Strong (K.M.P.S.) 15, Winter (Eastleigh Town) 12.

Division 3: Milson (Braishfield) 25, Morris (Bardic) 24, Price

(Globe) 23, Hunby (Bardic) 22, (Cynwys) 20, Ventura (Bardic) 19, Osborne 18, Edwards (United) 16, Fletcher (Newlands) 13, Conner (Hedge End) 13.

Division 4: Wimera (Chandler's Ford) 21, Humphries (Southgate Spartans) 20, (Eastleigh Town) 19, Jacobson (Chandler's Ford) 17, Jones (Quadrant) 16, (West End) 16, Karmek (K.M.P.S.) 15.

Division 5: Milson (Braishfield) 25, Morris (Bardic) 24, Price

(Globe) 23, Hunby (Bardic) 22, (Cynwys) 20, Ventura (Bardic) 19, Osborne 18, Edwards (United) 16, Fletcher (Newlands) 13.

Division 6: Shrimpton (Knightwood) 16, Pissington (Foresters) 16, (Southgate Spartans) 15.

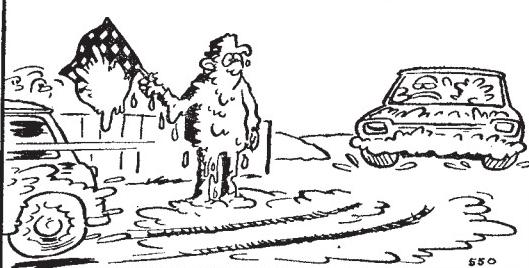
Division 7: Wimera (Chandler's Ford) 21, Humphries (Southgate Spartans) 20, (Eastleigh Town) 19, Jacobson (Chandler's Ford) 17, Jones (Quadrant) 16, (West End) 16, Karmek (K.M.P.S.) 15.

Division 8: Finomore (Shirley Torchbeaters) 31, Watson (Unitarian) 19, Cull (Dare Unitarian) 18, Goldard (Moorhill United) 18, Jordan (Netley Athl.

(Globe) 23, Hunby (Bardic) 22, (Cynwys) 20, Ventura (Bardic) 19, Osborne 18, Edwards (United) 16, Fletcher (Newlands) 13.

Division 9: Knepp (Millbrook Bush) 18, Ireland (Brendon) 17, (West End) 16, Phillips (Ashby) 17, Peartree 16.

Division 10: Whiteman, B.L. Lordship 16, Davis (Warash) 22, Wallis 18, Edwards (Warsash) 12, Hickey (Thornhill Baptists) 12.



New Street, champions of the North Hants Senior League (left to right standing: Arthur Turner (manager); Fred Stockwell, Mick Evans, Dennis Staff, Steve Chorley, Dave Stockwell, Ken Turner, Mick Stockwell, Ken Willey (trainer), Bob Bryden (chairman). Front row: Tony Robb, Graham Burchell, Robert Dunney, Keith Twycross, Dave Tucker, John Clark.



Town conceded silly points

Fareham Town look set to finish fourth in the Hampshire League, but with such inconsistency could easily have taken the championship again.

Having faced League match Fareham were due to play what might have been had they not conceded silly points to "lesser" sides such as Overton (District), Fleet, East Cowes Vics and Winchester City, the champions, finished five points clear

of Fareham, who hardly helped their own cause by producing some poor displays in the eventual winners. By their own high standards, Fareham have had a disappointing season, but have done well in cup competitions.

They are through to the finals of the South-Western Counties' Pratton Cup, the County Cup, for the fourth year, and the Gosport WM Hospitals Cup; coupled with which they enjoyed success in the FA

Trophy before losing to Staines Town in a replay. They also sprang an FA Cup surprise by beating Bath City 1-0.

Alan Wilson, who resigned as manager last summer, will be back at the reins from the start of next season, although it is unfortunate Reserves team boss, Dave Ings is unable to see his way clear to carrying on.

Ings, still a useful player, has done a fine job with the

Reserves this season and, through his forward-thinking, several useful youngsters have made their mark in Division 2.

The Reserves, who look certain to finish well up the Division 2 table, beat Totton Athletic 2-1 last weekend, with Martin Brightman and Alan Wilson scoring. Mike Swain (2) and Mick O'Neill scored for the first team in the 3-0 win at Cowes.

We are the champions! BROCKENHURST entered the Hampshire League during the 1957-58 season, and now, after five years, have won the championship.

Pictured above (left to right), back row: Cyril Old (chairman), Jack Hall (secretary), Steve Hallam, Ted Perfect (treasurer), Sebby Dando (assistant manager), John Lawford (manager), Alf Grace, Brian McQuoid, Ian Ferrett, Trevor Clark, Harry Lee (committee).

Front row: John Lee (committee), Jim Needham, Mike Ackling, Dave Dear, Pauline Hall, Brian McQuoid, Malcolm Reynard and Tim Richardson. Mascot: Michael Browning.

ISLAND LEAGUE

Geddes buys new boots in his 40s

JOE GEDDES, now in his 40s, went out and bought him self a pair of brand new boots the other day. Said Joe, a local club man who joined Franklin as a junior 25 seasons ago "I never thought I might be called in for a game or two yet."

Second Division," said secretary Dennis Simpson.

Mr. Buckett is sure of the solid support of players and committee members, who is very popular and a worthy successor to Peter Brennan," said Mr. Simpson.

SOTON SCHOOLS FINAL TABLES

FIFTH YEAR EAST

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Weston Park	9	8	0	1	16
Bitterne Park	6	5	2	2	12
Hilsea	9	5	1	3	15
St. George	4	3	1	4	9
Widmer	9	4	1	4	9
Merry Oak	9	3	0	5	8
St. Mary's	9	2	0	7	4
Woodstock	9	0	0	9	0

WEST

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Hardley	9	7	1	1	15
Hilsea	9	7	0	1	13
Hilsea	9	5	0	4	10
Bitterne	9	5	1	4	9
Shirey Warren	8	5	2	4	14
Hampton Park	8	4	2	4	10
Mathbrook	8	1	1	6	6
Princetown	8	0	2	6	6
Woodstock	8	0	0	8	0

Hardley beat Redbridge 3-1 in a play-off.

Duncan and Prentiss Cup final: Weston Park 3-0 Hardley 0.

FOURTH YEAR DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Weston Park	12	10	0	2	20
Redbridge	12	9	0	3	18
Princetown	12	6	1	5	13
Mathbrook	12	5	0	7	10
Merry Oak	12	4	2	6	10
Hilsea	12	3	1	8	9
Woodstock	12	1	0	11	3

WEST

Jubilation at Fairway Park, where Sandown Reserves return to Division 1 soccer after years of frustrating exile in lower leagues. Four times company with Yarmouth, who won the championship on goal average.

Boss manager Brian Arnold spared a thought for White's Sports, who took a tumble at the final hurdle when the prize of promotion was within their grasp.

Said Arnold: "White's are the best footballing side in the division and would have had the right company in Division 1."

He added: "I know exactly how they must be feeling I had the same experience four times when I was with Bradford Youth. Twice we were pipped at the post, once on goal average."

Of their promotion fight, Mr. Arnold said: "It was a big blow when we lost White's, especially when he had to have an ear operation, but Wilf White, a back-four player, took over and turned in some fantastic performances."

EAST

	P	W	D	L	Pts
St. Mary's	12	12	0	0	24
Widmer	12	7	2	3	15
Woodstock	11	5	0	5	10
Bitterne Park	12	5	0	7	9
Hampton Park	12	1	1	10	3

WEST

Sandown Reserves, back in the Hampshire League, got off to a flying start with a 3-0 win over Shirley Warren.

Goalkeeper Alan Goss and his team-mates, including Glyn Evans, were in top form.

Hampton Park withdrew during Division 2 play-off; St. Mary's 2, Testwood 1 (after extra time).

THIRD YEAR DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Mathbrook	12	10	1	1	20
Moorhill	12	9	1	2	19
St. George	12	6	1	5	13
Widmer	12	4	2	6	10
Merry Oak	12	4	2	6	10
Woodstock	12	3	2	7	9
Bitterne Park	12	2	0	10	4

EAST

Merry Oak, back in the Hampshire League, got off to a flying start with a 3-0 win over St. George.

Goalkeeper Alan Goss and his team-mates, including Glyn Evans, were in top form.

Hampton Park withdrew during Division 2 play-off; Shirley Warren 3, Merry Oak 0.

SECOND YEAR EAST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Hopetown	12	10	1	1	21
Moorhill	12	7	2	3	16
Merry Oak	12	7	3	2	15
Hampton Park	12	5	1	6	11
Bitterne Park	12	3	0	9	6
Woodstock	12	2	0	10	4

CENTRAL DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Pts
St. George	12	10	0	2	20
Shirey Warren	12	8	2	2	18
St. Mary's	12	5	3	4	13
Woodstock	12	3	3	6	11
Glyn Evans	12	3	2	7	8
Hampton Park	12	0	0	12	0

WEST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Redbridge	12	11	0	1	23
Woodstock	12	8	2	2	19
Hilsea	12	8	1	7	19
Redbridge	12	4	1	7	9
Woodstock	12	2	1	9	5
Norwood	12	1	1	10	3

Other results

—Moorhill beat Shirley Warren. In final: Bass Charrington Park beat Hardley.

Final: Norwood beat Hardley in final; Holt and Haskell Trophy (County Under-18s) Houndsdown beat Bitterne Park.

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'Lady B' reaping just rewards

"LADY B" is getting her money back. And that is a very good thing indeed for the British racing and breeding industry. The tall, thin grey-haired widow of the newspaper tycoon, Lord Beaverbrook, was formerly married to a leading financier. She is a very rich lady and a big spender.

When she came into our sports she was Lord Wigg; she has devoted my life to my husband's interests, the first part to high finance and the second to the news papers. Now I am free to enjoy the remainder of it doing what I want to do — racing.

With this end Lady Beaverbrook has spent a fortune on bloodstock at the annual sales, pushing prices up to astrophysical heights. She has been when involved in high-power duels with the likes of Ravi Tikko.

She takes a view about certain top stallions, notably the Derby winners, Cappello and Sea Bird II, and the mighty Italian horse, Tasso, 20 of whom are now dead. "These Sea Birds do something to me," she said once. "I just can't resist them."

Recently she has turned her attention to the Derby and Arc de Triomphe winner, Monar C, who holds the record for the National Stakes at the remarkable fee of £15,000 for a live foal.

The first Mill Reefs offered last year still stamped with a remarkable resemblance to their sire — the half-mark of a good stallion — fetched between £13,000 and 75,000 guineas.

Then, at Newmarket's Houghton Sales in mid-October, the lovely chestnut colt by Red Rum out of Lady B. seemed destined to join the ever-increasing drain of one best bloodstock to foreign countries until Lady Beaverbrook, with due battle with crusading zeal,

The handsome chestnut, who moved so well, was expected to make six figures, but the marketeer finally fell in favour of the BBA, shattering all records for the public sale of a thoroughbred in Europe.

At the time, Colonel Hastings would not say what name of the buyer, although it was generally assumed that Lady B. was involved, parti-

cularly since the youngster was sent to one of her trainers, Dick Hern.

"Last week Robin told me he belongs to the Dayspring Company Ltd, and will run in the name of Lady Beaverbrook, who is a director and chief shareholder." He emphasised that the name should not be confused with another, "Lady B.", two-year-old, Millionaire, trained by Peter Walwyn.

For some time it appeared that Lady B. liked many another big spender, was pouring her money down the drain. But in the last few years, she has started to reap her well-deserved rewards.

Her Bustino won first, the St. Leger and then last year's Gold Cup, and she has had an honourable narrow defeat by Grundy in that memorable record-breaking King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Ascot. He was syndicated for a huge sum and stands at stud in England.

Lady B. is a good picker of Cycle Speedway

Big defeat for Soton

SOUTHAMPTON Cycle Speedway Club were easily beaten 108-68 by English League Champions Wednesbury.

Wheeler was the Saints' main opposition, dropping just one point from his five rides.

A duel developed between the Indian shipping magnate Ravi Tikko, whose horses are now trained at Chantilly by Scobie Breasley, and Colonel Robin Hastings, of the British Bloodstock Agency.

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with TIM FITZGEORGE-PARKER

men. Her dedicated racing-manager is 25 times champion Sir Gordon Richards, the greatest jockey of them all. Her trainers are Dick Hern and Bill Badling.

Now her 1976 classic hopes, Relmico, a 58,000-guinea son of Derby winner Relko, and Silver Fox, a 50,000-guinea filly, and one of the last of Robot's produce, have won high-class races and are already worth a great deal more than their own price.

As Dick Hern continues on the crest of the wave, I believe that we'll be seeing more victories in the best company. Then, despite her huge outlay, Lady B. will start to reap the rewards.

I liked Nigel's comment:

"He may be better than ever.

"He may have grown even bigger. But I haven't a measuring stick big enough to find out!"

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Page 14 SPORTS ECHO — Saturday, May 1, 1976

NORTH HANTS SOCCER

North Hants area soccer results:
North Hants League Cup, semi-finalists: Basingstoke Res., Alresford Town 1.

NORTH HANTS LEAGUE

Division 1: Port 5, North Wimborne 1, New Stour 5, Eccleswell 0; Winchester Res. 1, Tadley 1, B.P.L. Andover 3, A.F.C. Durne 1, Alresford 0.

Division 2: Overton 4, Alresford 0.

Supplementary Cup: Sporting 3, Basing Res. 1.

North Hants Cup Final: Alresford 2, Basing Res. 1.

BASINGSTOKE LEAGUE

Student Premier Division: Sherfield 2, Basing 1, Four Marks 1, Basing Res. 1; M.M.S.O. 1, Douglas Rowson 1; Ropley 2, Rotherwick 1, Civil Service 0; Ropley 2, Silchester 1, Beechwood 2, Wiggins 1.

Division 1: C.A.D. Bramley 1, Basing Res. 1.

SOCIAL CLUBS LEAGUE**Camelot Cup won by Northam**

NORTHAM won their first Camelot Darts Cup championship when they beat Ex-Service A 5—4 with the result depending on the very last game.

Northam made a flying start, winning the first three games, but Ex-Service A were back to level 3—3 with players on both sides in fine form producing throws of 80 and 100.

D. Lacey pulled Northam 4—3 ahead, but Pete Moss had Ex-Service level again. In a great finish D. McCarthy beat Laurent to give Northam the cup.

Fremantle B won the five-sided darts championship and once again Ex-Service had to be satisfied with a runners-up place. Fremantle won 3—0.

In the semi-finals, Fremantle beat Loco Engineers 2—0 and Ex-Service beat BTC by the same score.

★

Chris Holland (Shirley Warren) won his sixth individual snooker title with a 9—0 victory over Dugger McColl (Ex-Service).

Holland zipped through the first frame to win 67—15.

McColl had a 30 break to take a 54—22 lead with only the colours left. This meant that Holland needed to win two more frames and colours to win. Holland took the balls to the pink and then left. McColl a snooker he failed to negotiate.

Holland dropped the pink and black to win 55—54 and went on to take the third frame 48—26.

★

DIVISION 1

P	W	L	D	A	P
Parish	1	1	0	50	124
Park Gate	2	1	0	85	155
Woolston Social	2	0	2	92	158
Eastleigh Cons.	2	0	2	89	119
Shirley Cons. C	2	0	2	71	93
Minstead	2	0	2	67	98
Woolston Cons.	2	0	2	68	82
Bitterne Park	2	0	2	68	82
B.T.C.	2	0	2	68	76
Bitterne Park B	2	0	2	54	76
Hulse Road	2	0	2	40	84

P	W	L	D	A	P
Essie Ashlett B	2	1	0	93	57
Portsmouth Trans. A	2	1	0	83	55
Chandler's Ford	2	1	0	82	55
Hulse Road B	2	1	0	78	62
Eastleigh Cons.	2	1	0	78	62
Shirley Cons. C	2	1	0	71	79
Minstead	2	1	0	64	76
Woolston Cons.	2	1	0	60	76
Bitterne Cons.	2	1	0	58	76
Echo Social Cons.	2	1	0	52	83
Folliards A	2	1	0	52	80
Minstead	2	1	0	52	71
Totton Cons.	2	1	0	52	77
Totton Rec.	2	1	0	52	81
Shirley Cons. B	2	1	0	52	84
Hedge End A	2	1	0	52	84

P	W	L	D	A	P
Pirelli C	2	1	0	99	151
Shirley Cons. D	2	1	0	81	117
B.T.C.	2	1	0	70	103
Service B	2	1	0	69	103
Sarisbury B	2	1	0	74	108
Portsmouth Trans. B	2	1	0	73	108
Woolston Cons.	2	1	0	73	109
Bitterne Cons.	2	1	0	64	99
Echo Social Cons.	2	1	0	67	99
Folliards B	2	1	0	67	99
Minstead	2	1	0	53	82
Totton Cons. B	2	1	0	52	86
Hedge End B	2	1	0	52	86

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Pirelli C	2	1	0	99	151
Shirley Cons. D	2	1	0	81	117
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Hedge End B	2	1	0	52	86

P	W	L	D	A	P
Pirelli C	2	1	0	99	151
Shirley Cons. D	2	1	0	81	117
B.T.C.	2	1	0	70	103
Service B	2	1	0	69	103
Sarisbury B	2	1	0	74	108
Portsmouth Trans. B	2	1	0	73	108
Woolston Cons.	2	1	0	73	109
Bitterne Cons.	2	1	0	64	99
Echo Social Cons.	2	1	0	67	99
Folliards A	2	1	0	67	99
Minstead	2	1	0	53	82
Totton Cons. B	2	1	0	52	86
Hedge End B	2	1	0	52	86

P	W	L	D	A	P
Pirelli C	2	1	0	99	151
Shirley Cons. D	2	1	0	81	117
B.T.C.	2	1	0	70	103
Service B	2	1	0	69	103
Sarisbury B	2	1	0	74	108
Portsmouth Trans. B	2	1	0	73	108
Woolston Cons.	2	1	0	73	109
Bitterne Cons.	2	1	0	64	99
Echo Social Cons.	2	1	0	67	99
Folliards A	2	1	0	67	99
Minstead	2	1	0	53	82
Totton Cons. B	2	1	0	52	86
Hedge End B	2	1	0	52	86

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Echo Social Cons.	2	1	0	67	99
Folliards A	2	1	0	67	99



ALDERMAN Mrs. Lydia Ironside, President of the Multiple Sclerosis Society in Southampton and a former mayor of the city, presents the Southampton Industrial Cup to winning captain, Derek Walley, captain of Pirelli.

This charity soccer competition has now raised over £1,000 for both Multiple Sclerosis and the Hampshire Fair Benevolent Fund in the past ten seasons.

Extra time win for Pirelli

BY DEREK CASH
Road-Sea 1, Pirelli General 2.
(after extra time)

PIRELLI GENERAL won the Southampton Industrial Cup for the tenth time at Sholing's Birch Lawn last night and, for the second successive year, they beat Southampton Sunday League champions Road-Sea in the final—but they left it late!

Road-Sea were leading until four minutes from time thanks to superb goalkeeping from Paul Grant, but then Pirelli struck.

As a long high ball came out of the Pirelli half, the Road-Sea side raced forward only for Pirelli forward John Wardell to dive in front of the ball, race to the by-line and cross for substitute Mervyn Rogers to head in from the net. That equaliser had looked most unlikely until Pirelli introduced Rogers for the limping Chris Glover, six minutes earlier, but his presence put uncertainty to had proved to look fruitful.

Extra-time looked the fittest football that both sides had displayed in the first half and, made of it, the match Derek Walker, troubled by a knee, with long through balls from midfield.

MAGNIFICENT Midway through the first additional period Steve Blaxall found the head of striker Terry Brown and his effort kicked clearly goal-bound until the ball bounced. Grant dived to his left to hook the ball round the post.

Then Bobby Williams had a shot blocked by a hand, John Wardell and seconds later shot wildly over when clear in front of goal. Rogers almost settled it at the start of the second period but his 20-yard drive ricocheted off the bar and

Reference: Mr. C. Pennington.

CHANNON'S MATCH

SAINTS will play First Division championship contenders Queen's Park Rangers on Saturday at The Dell (7.30) in a match for Mike Channon's testimonial.

RUGBY

Trojans end on winning note

By DAVID KENNY

TROJANS wound up their last night, winning their home match with Eastleigh 22-12. Since both sides scored two tries, the difference between them was four penalty goals for Trojans.

The home side, for whom John Mist and Chris Moncrieff went well up a great start, had won the match sewn up by half-time. They won a stack of possession in the first half but their finishing was poor.

As it was, they crossed over with a 15-0 lead, their points coming from three wide penalties and a try. Left-winger Alex Black, who got over after a clearing kick by Eastleigh full back Mick Moncrieff had been charged down.

Eastleigh went much better in the second half and with the two tries either side of the match had pulled up to within a point with 20 minutes to go. The first of their tries stemmed from a break by Dai Gronow.

DETERMINATION

Receiving the 40 yards of Gronow's break, a great break before feeding John Fry, on the burst and Mervyn Morris coming up from the back, can be seen with determination to score a try which Peter Morrison improved. Eastleigh's other try came from Mick Cavanna who, coming up on the blindsides of a maul, powered his way over for a try in the corner which Bob Goff converted.

Hampshire without Gilliat

HAMPSHIRE will be without skipper Richard Gilliat for their John Player League match against Derbyshire at Bournemouth tomorrow and for the Benson and Hedges Cup match against the same opponents at Southampton on Monday.

Gilliat injured ligaments in his knee when playing in the Benson and Hedges Cup match against Lancashire at Old Trafford last Saturday. He led the John Player League game against Gloucestershire last Sunday but played in the game against Somerset which ended yesterday.

But, his left arm is still giving trouble and, as a result, he has declared himself unfit for the games against Derbyshire tomorrow and on Monday.

In the absence of Gilliat, Barry Richards will lead the team which will be chosen from: B. A. Richards (captain), R. V. Lewis, D. R. Turner, T. E. Jesty, P. J. Sainsbury, J. M. Price, A. J. Mortimer, N. Cowley, F. R. Stephenson, R. S. Herman and T. J. Mortimer.

The seven previous John Player League encounters between Hampshire and Derbyshire have ended in three wins for Hampshire, two for Derbyshire and two abandoned.

BILLIARDS

Pirelli set for second place

WOOLSTON SOCIAL'S hopes of being runners-up in the Southampton and District Billiards League suffered another severe setback when they lost 6-1 away to Hulse Road Social (D. Feltham 33).

Although the home side won five tables, Woolston (G. Holmes 39) were only five points adrift on the aggregate.

Virtually certain to take second place now is Pirelli Social A (Tom Powell, 50), who won all six tables in a closely contested match at Hulse Road Social.

Despite winning 4-3 against their A side, Botley Institute B are back at the bottom of the table but only one point behind the leaders in the Hulse Road Social.

Latest prey of the Castle Club are Bitterne Folliards who were beaten 6-1 at home by the league champions (Vivelle Smith 35).

Despite a determined effort by Ivor Rows (55), Pirelli B went down 5-2 at home to Folliards.

The aggregate point decided the match at Dean Road where Bitterne Conservatives beat Curdridge A 4-3.

George Miller is this year's junior billiards champion. At Woolston Social Club, he pulled steadily away from Alan Lawrence to win by 50-172.

Particulars of venues for remaining knock-out finals will be noted next week.

Tuesday May 3 (7.35): Individualists at Bitterne Conservatives, E. Shorney v. A. Hobbs.

May 6 (8 pm): Frank Judd Trophy at Bitterne Park Social, Folliards v. Castle, Folliards v. (8 pm): Ken Sydenham Cup at Castle Club, B. Bound v. T. Powell.

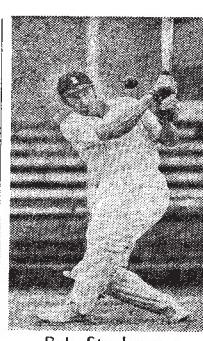
May 11 (8 pm): Usher Cup at Bitterne Conservatives, Castle Folliards v. (8 pm): Riley Shiel v. Castle, St. Denys, Pirelli B v. Castle, St. Denys.

May 12 (8 pm): Individual snooker at St. Denys Conservative Club B. Price v. P. Holmes.

May 13 (8 pm): Individual snooker at St. Denys Conservative Club B. Price v. P. Holmes.

May 18 (8 pm): Individual snooker at St. Denys Conservative Club B. Price v. P. Holmes.

May 19 (8 pm): Spratling Cup at Bolley Park Gate v. Castle.



Bob Stephenson

CYCLING

Road works force a course change

CHANGES in two regular time trial courses have caused a significant drop in two normally well-supported cycling events. Road work at Ringwood has caused a temporary return to the original "Salisbury turn" course for the Poole Wheelers "25" and this is reflected in the entry of only 81.

Sotonians C.C.'s Trevor West shares the scratch position with Willie Kirkland (Wessex) and Alan Hunt (Hounslow) and among other riders is former 100-mile champion Jon Baylis returning to the sport for his original club South Hampshire Wheelers.

With traffic lights causing the final abandonment of the "Bath Road course" for 25 miles, the High Wycombe have moved their venue to the less favoured course west of Newbury.

Crabwood's Glenn Longland and Neville Stroud could well move to make up the field of 14 tandems which open the event, while Oxford veteran Mick Bowen could go well in the 70-strong field for the solo race.

CIRCUIT RACES

Tomorrow afternoon all three categories of the Wessex District Circuit races will be contested at Hurn.

Defending junior champion Julian Maggs will have to overcome a strong contingent of Northants riders in the 30-mile junior race at 3pm, but the chief danger could come from Aaron Denn (V. C. Radstock).

The 15-mile championship for schoolboys and girls which starts at 2.15 pm is well supported by the Bournemouth 20s. Coedwells' Helen Mayswig, winner of a national cyclo-cross champion Andy Sawyer could well battle out the finish with V.C. Radstock's 15-year-old Mark Fitz-Gerald.

There are 52 entrants for the 50-mile senior race which starts at 2.55 pm, with former

Hilda takes jackpot

MRS. HILDA LEE could not have stopped the "Evening Echo" Find the Ball jackpot at a better time.

Hilda, who has been pre-gaming in holiday flats at Spur Hill Avenue, Parkstone and wondering how to meet the costs.

"The fun will be handy," said Hilda, who has been entering the competition for several years. Hilda (50) has had one previous win—a £5 runners-up prize.

Tatchbury win

BEFORE a crowd of 200 at Brockenhurst last night, Tatchbury beat Lyminster 5-3 in extra time to win the New Forest Premier Cup.

The scores were level 1-1 after 50 minutes and in the stroke of full time Lyminster equalised to make it 3-3, but Tatchbury made sure with two more goals in extra time.

Goal scorer for Tatchbury was Chris Stanley (3), Ian Pennicott and Terry Chilcott (2). Paul Turner replied for Lyminster. League chairman, Jack Renyard presented the cup.

POOLE GREYHOUNDS

Tonight's Poole greyhounds card:

1.50: Silver Queen, Sole Act, Gladam; 7.45: Rev. Clegg, Chicky Hunter, Little Scouse, Gemini, Canaan, Keen Tom, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Tudor Dam, 20-1 (1), 51, 34, 3, 34, 1, 9.10: King Christopher 11-4 (4).

1.50: King Rebel 4-6 (3), 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212nd, 213rd, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242nd, 243rd, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252nd, 253rd, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262nd, 263rd, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272nd, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 278th, 279th, 280th, 281st, 282nd, 283rd, 284th, 285th, 286th, 287th, 288th, 289th, 290th, 291st, 292nd, 293rd, 294th, 295th, 296th, 297th, 298th, 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728th, 729th, 730th, 731st, 732nd, 733rd, 734th, 735th, 736th, 737th, 738th, 739th, 740th, 741st, 742nd, 743rd, 744th, 745th, 746th, 747th, 748th, 749th, 750th, 751st, 752nd, 753rd, 754th, 755th, 756th, 757th, 758th, 759th, 760th, 761st, 762nd, 763rd, 764th, 765th, 766th, 767th, 768th, 769th, 770th, 771st, 772nd, 773rd, 774th, 775th, 776th, 777th, 778th, 779th, 780th, 781st, 782nd, 783rd, 784th, 785th, 786th, 787th, 788th, 789th, 790th, 791st, 792nd, 793rd, 794th, 795th, 796th, 797th, 798th, 799th, 800th, 801st, 802nd, 803rd, 804th, 805th, 806th, 807th, 808th, 809th, 810th, 811st, 812nd, 813rd, 814th, 815th, 816th, 817th, 818th, 819th, 820th, 821st, 822nd, 823rd, 824th, 825th, 826th, 827th, 828th, 829th, 830th, 831st, 832nd, 833rd, 834th, 835th, 836th, 837th, 838th, 839th, 840th, 841st, 842nd, 843rd, 844th, 845th, 846th, 847th, 848th, 849th, 850th, 851st, 852nd, 853rd, 854th, 855th, 856th, 857th, 858th, 859th, 860th, 861st, 862nd, 863rd, 864th, 865th, 866th, 867th, 868th, 869th, 870th, 871st, 872nd, 873rd, 874th, 875th, 876th, 877th, 878th, 879th, 880th, 881st, 882nd, 883rd, 884th, 885th, 886th, 887th, 888th, 889th, 890th, 891st, 892nd, 893rd, 894th, 895th, 896th, 897th, 898th, 899th, 900th, 901st, 902nd, 903rd, 904th, 905th, 906th, 907th, 908th, 909th, 910th, 911st, 912nd, 913rd, 914th, 915th, 916th, 917th, 918th, 919th, 920th, 921st, 922nd, 923rd, 924th, 925th, 926th, 927th, 928th, 929th, 930th, 931st, 932nd, 933rd, 934th, 935th, 936th, 937th, 938th, 939th, 940th, 941st, 942nd, 943rd, 944th, 945th, 946th, 947th, 948th, 949th, 950th, 951st, 952nd, 953rd, 954th, 955th, 956th, 957th, 958th, 959th, 960th, 961st, 962nd, 963rd, 964th, 965th, 966th, 967th, 968th, 969th, 970th, 971st, 972nd, 973rd, 974th, 975th, 976th, 977th, 978th, 979th, 980th, 981st, 982nd, 983rd, 984th, 985th

IT'S ALL SAINTS DAY

Teams:

SAINTS

Ian Turner	1	Alex Stepney
Peter Rodrigues	2	Alex Forsyth
David Peach	3	Stewart Houston
Nick Holmes	4	Gerry Daly
Mel Blyth	5	Brian Greenhoff
Jim Steele	6	Martin Buchan
Paul Gilchrist	7	Steve Coppell
Mick Channon	8	Sammy McIlroy
Peter Osgood	9	Stuart Pearson
Jim McCallig	10	Lou Macari
Bobby Stokes	11	Gordon Hill
Hugh Fisher	12	David McCreery

MAN. UTD.

Alex Stepney	1	Ian Turner
Alex Forsyth	2	Peter Rodrigues
Stewart Houston	3	David Peach
Gerry Daly	4	Nick Holmes
Brian Greenhoff	5	Mel Blyth
Martin Buchan	6	Jim Steele
Steve Coppell	7	Paul Gilchrist
Sammy McIlroy	8	Mick Channon
Stuart Pearson	9	Peter Osgood
Lou Macari	10	Jim McCallig
Gordon Hill	11	Bobby Stokes
David McCreery	12	Hugh Fisher

Referee: Clive Thomas (Treorchy).

Linesmen: A. W. Gray (Gorleston-on-Sea), B. Merchant (Hereford).

By Brian Hayward

Sports Editor

sents a fairy story. Only a year ago, given a free transfer by Sheffield Wednesday, it was thinking about going off football!

Saints wore red track-suit tops and United had white tops. The two bands of the Guards played the national anthem as Prince Philip went down to the pitch to be presented with the manager's trophy. It was introduced to United by Martin Buchan and, after stopping for a word with Tony Docherty, he moved across to meet Peter Rodriguez.

Shared a joke with McMenemy

Rodrigues then escorted the Prince along the line of Saints players. He stopped to talk with manager Lawrie McMenemy, who had agreed to share a joke with him.

United wore their normal red shirts and white shorts. Saints sported their new strip of yellow shirts with red stripes along the sleeves. There was a yellow stripe on their shorts.

Saints, who won the toss, descended the east end where most of their supporters were. And Saints quickly made an impressive attack. The move was set up by Jim Steele, who found Paul Gilchrist; and he tried to reach Bobby Stokes, moving eagerly into space, but Martin Buchan cut out the danger quickly.

There was an early taste of action for Ian Turner when Gordon Hill scored for both United. Hill, in the usual cut in and put his shot on target. Turner beat the ball down and Lou Macari was penalised for a foul on the goalkeeper he followed in.

Wingers stamp selves on game

Saints were soon back in the United half when Buchan was forced to make a back pass to Alex Stepney as Stokes went in, then Brian Greenhoff found Steve Coppell with a long cross-ball. Hill sped past Peter Rodriguez and again had a shot on target. Turner saved and Sammy McIlroy was penalised for a foul.

But United were looking dangerous in these early stages and they soon fashioned another penetrating move which was checked by an offside decision against Steve Coppell.

Coppell and Hill, two exciting wingers, quickly claimed the initiative on the game. Coppell began a move which saw Turner having to save a cross-shot from Forseyth; but as Saint countered, he took a look to check Nick Holmes illegally.

The Saints defence again caught United off-side as Coppell made a probing run from the offside trap. But Stokes then found Paul Gilchrist to begin a promising Saints attack.

Buchan intercepted a pass and very nearly knocked the ball back to Stepney, which could have been disastrous for United. Stokes was moving in anticipating the back-out, but Martin Buchan cut out the danger quickly.

Stepney, in his first experience of a long and distinguished career, spotted the danger early and came off his line quickly. Channon shot but Steeple was unable to get scoring chances, moved on to the ball in a flash.

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took it and Osgood won it in the air, but his header was too high.

Holmes sorts out hectic scramble

Saints, although very much the underdogs in the eyes of many, were certainly not being overawed by the occasion. They had every reason to score after Osgood's pack in the Saints' half working hard, lost possession to McIlroy. A dangerous scramble developed at the edge of the box, but Holmes made a decisive tackle and Osgood coolly pushed the ball back to Turner's waiting hands.

Twice long throw-ins by Hill put Saints under pressure, but Holmes dealt with this confidently and a long pass by Gilchrist sent Channon racing down the right wing; but speed and whipped the ball into touch. From the throw-in, McCallig centred and Osgood again headed, this time with his superiority in the air, but his header flew over the bar.

A strong nonsense tackle from Hill sent McIlroy in his tracks and McCallig moved on to the ball and tried to find Channon along the left wing, but when Channon went so did Buchan and he swept the ball into touch.

A fine move by Pearson and Coppell posed problems for Peach and Steele, but the ball was brought down by Holmes, and Forsyth drove a low free-kick.

But greater danger lay ahead for Saints. Macari cut in from the left and swerved his body, heading before pulling the ball back to Dally. It was a definite chance and Dally's shot was target but Turner saved him and then Pearson's shot was cleared after Peter Osgood's pass.

A fine move by Pearson and Coppell posed problems for Peach and Steele, but the ball was brought down by Holmes, and Forsyth drove a low free-kick.

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Manchester United skipper Martin Buchan introduces members of his team to Prince Philip at Wembley.

Saints' goalkeeper Ian Turner is flattened by United's Sammy McIlroy (right) after pushing away a shot from Peter Rodrigues (left) to clear.

Stokes, who unleashed a fine shot with the outside of his right foot. It swerved viciously around the post and bar past the angle of post and bar.

Pearson put pressure on other fine move. Osgood rolled the ball inside to Stokes and Stokes touched it to Holmes, but he missed the head of right-footed shot—his weaker foot.

And with Rodrigues flat out on the halfway line, he hit a collision. United put on some pressure, but Saints repelled it and when the ball was kicked out, Pearson raced from Coppell's kick-off. Houston followed up and cracked a free-kick, but the ball was headed off target by Jim Glennie to treat the Saints' captain.

United were worried when McCallig hit another precise through-pass. Channon centred, read it and drove back towards the Saints' penalty area, but Stokes had the ball away with his left leg.

After 33 minutes, a superb move by McCallig from midfield could so easily have brought Saints a goal. Pearson raced from the offside trap, but Turner saved him and then Glennie had the agony of watching the angle of post and bar.

This was becoming a really testing period for Saints. Steeple, on the ground, hooked the ball wide and it was turned around for a corner. Channon found Peach in space out on the left, Peach centred and Osgood headed it to the far post for his header and then had the agony of watching the angle of post and bar.

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Channon was swamped by the Saints' centre-forward, but he got away with it and then Glennie was set up by a brilliant counter-attack. The ball was passed to Stokes, who had the ball all to himself and he started the ball on its way into the United half before switching the direction of the attack with a pass to Channon on the right wing. Channon cut inside in a brilliant fashion and took the ball past Buchan, before finding a fierce left-foot shot that seemed only inches away from the target.

Soon after that, in the 67th minute, United brought on substitute David McCreery, and it was Hill, the semi-final hero, who was on the ball.

The game remained so finely balanced, with Saints a splendid advertisement for the quality of their young players. McCallig, on the right, Osgood, on the left, Pearson, on the ball, and Glennie, on the ball, were all in the thick of it.

When the game restarted, Saints immediately had to undergo a terrible moment. United had the momentum, but luck was with Sammy McIlroy hit the angle of post and bar, but Saints played with patient and determination. Jim McCallig pulled the strings in midfield and there was Stokes' forward to finish it off.

Attendance: 100,000. Receipts: £420,000.

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Lawrie McMenemy, the Southampton manager, said afterwards: "The longer we're on the better for us. During the match I told substitute Hugie Fisher

"We're not going to lose this. We're not going to concede four goals in the Cup this season and if it slows down determined we have to be.

"The only time that I was worried was when we conceded a corner or a free kick because it is ages since a club has scored a 'good' goal against us."

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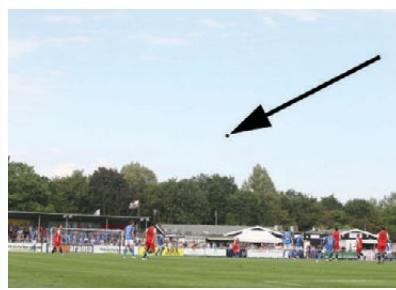
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Saints' FA Cup triumph

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Pictures: Chris Moorhouse



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A SPECTACULAR gala dinner was held at St Mary's last night to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Saints' FA Cup final success.

Manager Lawrie McMenemy, his backroom staff and most of the team that defeated Manchester United 1-0 at Wembley on May 1, 1976 were the guests of honour in the Mike Channon Suite, where more than £100,000 was raised for the players and the event's charity, Wessex Heartbeat.

With the exception of captain Peter Rodrigues and the late, great Bobby Stokes and Peter Osgood, the FA Cup heroes were all present, including: Ian Turner, Mel Blyth, Jim Steele, David Peach, Paul Gilchrist, Nick Holmes, Jim McCalliog, Mick Channon, Hughie Fisher, Pat Earles, Paul Bennett and Gerry O'Brien.

Other big Saints names present included director of football Les Reed and former striker James Beattie.

Hampshire Cricket chairman Rod Bransgrove and director of cricket Giles White were among several guests from The Ageas Bowl.

Top-class entertainment included acts from freestyle rapper Chris

Turner, comedian Josh Daniels and West End 2 U, a group of five former *Les Misérables* cast members who produced a stunning finale with a breathtaking medley of hits from the hit musical.

The night was compèred by Mike Osman and the auction raised a six-figure sum.

A painting commemorating the 1976 team was completed live by Ben Mosley, before being signed by all the FA Cup heroes and sold for £16,000.

But the biggest buy of the night was an evening's entertainment from former Spandau Ballet star Tony Hadley, West End 2 U and Josh Daniels, which went for £27,000.

The 40th anniversary celebrations conclude on Sunday, when the players will travel on the open-top bus used for the original celebratory tour of the city, from Southampton Guildhall to St Mary's, before being welcomed on to the pitch at half-time during Saints' match against Manchester City.

They will then move on to the Mayflower Theatre for a special anniversary show compèred by legendary sports broadcasters Peter Brackley and Garry Richardson.

toasted at gala dinner



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Members of the 1976 team, back row, from left, Pat Earles, Nick Holmes, David Peach, Ian Turner, Lawrie McMenemy, Mel Blyth, Paul Gilchrist and Hughie Fisher. Front row, Gerry O'Brien, Jim McCalliog, Paul Bennett and Jim Steele.



Naomi Gates, Chris and Fiona Mitchell, and Evelyn Snow.



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Howe plays down Toffees speculation

EDDIE Howe insists he remains fully committed to Bournemouth amid reports suggesting he could be the next Everton manager.

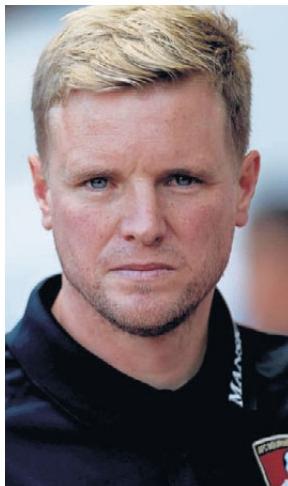
Roberto Martinez's position at Goodison Park appears precarious following a season of underachievement, highlighted by supporter dissatisfaction in recent weeks.

Fans have held banners calling for the Spaniard to go and backed Leighton Baines after the left-back was forced to apologise for saying Everton lacked 'chemistry'.

Asked if he would be interested in succeeding Martinez should he leave Everton, Howe told reporters: "I don't think I have to reaffirm my commitment here every week, which seems to be a regular pattern. I love it here and I'm committed to the job."

"You've got to win games to stay in work and I'm fully committed to this job here."

"When you're a manager yourself you



AFC Bournemouth manager Eddie Howe

has the full support and understanding of other managers.

"It's a very difficult profession and you're judged constantly every week on your results, on a lot of aspects of your job."

"It's very tough at this level."

Meanwhile, Howe is keen to protect Harry Arter's long-term future as the midfielder continues to battle a persistent Achilles problem.

The Republic of Ireland international suffered the injury during the home win against south-coast rivals Southampton at the beginning of March and has played just 45 minutes of football since.

"It's been difficult for him because he's the type of character that wants to play, as they all do, every week," said Howe.

"He missed pre-season, the first part and the tail-end of the season and in between he did really well."

"We just hope that he's fit beyond this season and of course this summer is a big one for him."

"We will wait and see what happens."

Of Bournemouth's recent injury problems, Howe added: "Adam Smith has seen a specialist and we're waiting for some definitive feedback on him. Max (Gradel) is improving slightly, he took a knock but we hope he'll be ok."

"Again we'll take our time on him but we're hopeful he'll get fit."

Adams raring to go

JIMMY Adams is relishing the prospect of embarking on a cricket season without the distractions which dogged the opening months of his 2015 campaign.

Following his decision to relinquish the Hampshire captaincy in July last year, Adams rediscovered his form with the bat, playing a vital role as the Ageas Bowl side retained their County Championship Division One status, against all conceivable odds, writes Paul McNamara.

Adams, who succeeded Dominic Cork as skipper in 2012 and had his long service to the club rewarded with a benefit last year, is looking forward to his first match of the season against Middlesex tomorrow after recovering from the ankle injury that ruled him out of the draws against Warwickshire and Yorkshire.

"I'm certainly looking forward to this year, without some of the stuff that was bubbling along in the background last year," said Adams, who made 117 for the 2nd XI against Somerset this week.

"The captaincy was a real privilege, but there are also times when you can find yourself too immersed in things. I don't know how this season will go, but I am very much looking forward to it."

"It's been frustrating to miss out so far, but I can't complain too much. I've never had to miss a game through an injury before, so I've been fairly lucky."

Despite guiding his team to Lord's glory in 2012, when Hampshire beat Warwickshire in the final of the now defunct 40-over competition, and masterminding promotion into the top-flight in 2014, Adams admits that he never viewed captaincy as a long-term proposition.

He said: "I think it got to the point where it was starting to weigh on me a bit more than it had in previous years. I don't think I ever thought I was going to do it for a long, long time."

"You have to be very strong, a certain character to be able to do it for a long period. Someone like Mark Nicholas (Hampshire captain for a decade from 1985) is a prime example of that."

"I did always have it in my head that after a few years it would be nice to finish my career playing without the stripes. I'm looking forward now to this year and beyond, hopefully."

After replacing Adams in the post, James Vince oversaw Hampshire's remarkable finish to last season, winning three and losing only one of his six championship matches at the helm.

Their renaissance saw Hampshire pip Sussex to safety by two points. Adams, meanwhile, was finding his touch in the middle. The opener followed up a century at Taunton, against Somerset, by delivering 70 priceless runs from his bat at Trent Bridge, as his team



Jimmy Adams in typically aggressive mode in limited overs cricket



A flashback to 2012 – left to right Sean Ervine, Jimmy Adams, Simon Katich and James Tomlinson

chased down 200 on the season's final day at Nottinghamshire to complete the great escape.

And the left-hander intends to contribute on all fronts this year.

Asked if Hampshire would be prioritising one particular format of the game, Adams pointed to the

attitude of another of the county's former captains, Shane Warne, who targeted victory in every single match, regardless of its wider context.

"With the history we've had in the T20 (Hampshire have contested finals day in each of the last six sea-

sons, winning the tournament in 2010 and 2012), some people might see that as the competition to earmark. But I sense that you start the season and think you can win every game."

"I remember Shane Warne saying exactly that in his early days at the

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without captaincy



Jimmy Adams and his son, Jonah, pictured in September last year



Jimmy Adams in textbook mode for Hampshire

club. He would say we are going to try and win every game. If you do that you'll win every trophy. The likelihood of that happening, of course, is slim. But you don't go into any game thinking 'no, this one's not for us'.

"But I do think, in four-day cricket, last year's topsy-turvy cam-

paign highlighted the importance of starting well. So that's our priority for the first part of the year."

Australian legend Warne, who finished his Test career with 708 wickets, returned to Hampshire as skipper in 2002, having already spent the 2000 season there.

Adams says the former leg-spin-

ner's fearless outlook is something he still draws on today.

"I was very lucky," explained former England Lions batsman Adams. "Shane came along at a time in my career when having someone of his character and his presence here really helped me.

"When he looked you in the eye

and said 'come on mate, I need you', it gave you real belief. To feel that someone like him believed in me was a huge fillip.

"I think the guys that were fortunate enough to play with him can always draw on things from that time. There can be game times when you feel like you're a long way behind the eight-ball. Warne had this incredible belief that a game could be won from any situation.

"I'd like to think a good number of us have carried that through. When we're in a tricky situation we still believe we can turn it around. That's the resilience we showed last year, and we'll need to replicate it this year."

Adams insists that, in Vince, Hampshire have the perfect character to spearhead a side which represents a fascinating mix of exciting youngsters and veteran campaigners, the category into which the 35-year-old now falls, 14 years after his first-class debut.

"It's tough, because you don't want to add to the weight of expectation on him," said Adams, when asked about both Vince's leadership credentials and international prospects.

"But I do believe that his ability as a player is suited to international cricket. I think he has that time at the crease – and technically he's strong enough.

"As a captain, the beauty of Vincey is that every time he takes to the field he's a real competitive sod. He wants to win and he'll do almost anything to achieve that.

"He's got a good cricket brain and hopefully a few of us older stagers can help him if he needs it – but I don't really think he does.

"I think he possesses the self-assurance that the decisions he's making are the right ones. It would be very good if he's around for us, but I have a feeling that we might not see as much of him as we'd like."

Hampshire fans can, however, expect to see plenty of the club's promising batch of emerging talent in action this year.

Adams believes 19-year-old Mason Crane, who burst onto the scene with his wicket-taking leg-spin last year, will continue to flourish this time round.

And the ex-captain is confident that the trio of Crane's fellow 19-year-old Joe Weatherley, Tom Allop (20) and 21-year-old Lewis McManus – all of whom fired with the bat throughout pre-season – share the capacity to seize any first-team opportunity to come their way.

He said: "Lewis, Tom and Joe have been brilliant in pre-season. They've scored runs almost every time they've had an opportunity. I think all of them are ready.

"You can never be 100 per cent sure because experience is a great asset as well, but I certainly don't think any of us are worried about them having to play.

Turn to page 45

Lallana in Villarreal goals vow

LIVERPOOL manager Jurgen Klopp has told his players Villarreal are "there for the taking" at Anfield next week despite holding a 1-0 first leg Europa League semi-final lead.

An added-time Adrian Lopez goal gave the Spanish club a slender advantage to bring to Merseyside but the Reds boss is confident that can be turned around – backed by the power of a home crowd – and ex-Saints star Adam Lallana agrees.

Klopp may have tried to manage expectations of a repeat of the drama of a fortnight ago – when another former Saint, Dejan Lovren, struck an injury-time winner as the Reds produced a miraculous comeback against Borussia Dortmund – in his post-match press conference but Lallana is stirred by still-fresh memories of what turned out to be a famous Anfield night.

"Trust me, I cannot wait for next week," said the England international. "I keep thinking about Dortmund and what happened then. The fans have got a massive role to play.

"We are going to make it a rocking atmosphere and we will get the two goals that we need.

"The manager has told us that they are there for the taking.

"He told us that we have got the fans



Adam Lallana is challenged by Cuco Martina and then he said, 'We will make it another magical night next week.'

Although Klopp suggested his side's inexperience may have cost them a goalless draw in Spain after they were caught out by an injury-time counter-attack Lallana believes the players have learned plenty from a number of big games in the last 12 months.

They reached last season's FA Cup semi-final and went one better than their 2015 run to the last four of the Capital One Cup by reaching Wembley this February, only losing to Manchester City on penalties.

Lallana is sure that will stand them in good stead when it the time comes to deliver next Thursday.

"It was a massive sucker punch, so hard to take. It almost a brilliant away performance," he added. "But listen, these things happen. We still have massive confidence about taking them back to Anfield. It will be a completely different game.

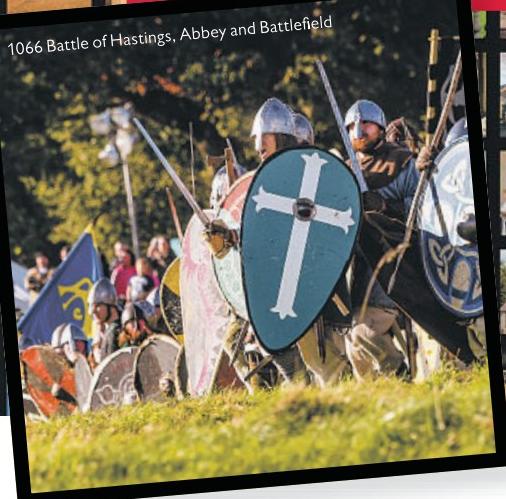
"The manager told us, 'Do not worry. Be disappointed for five minutes but no longer – wait until we get them back home'.

"It would have been easy to get deflated. It's only natural that we are disappointed after conceding in injury time but we are over it.

"We have got to back ourselves and we will."

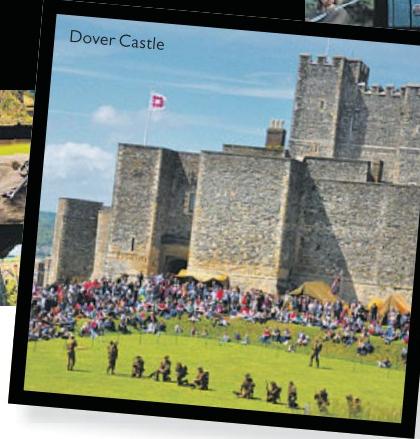


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SUNDAY LEAGUE AND SPORTS ROUND-UP



Crowds line the streets as Bradley Wiggins cycles out at the start of the Tour of Yorkshire

Winsor win to lift junior cup

WINSOR United claimed the Southampton Divisional FA Junior 'B' cup with a 1-0 victory over Lyndhurst JFC.

The teams were drawing 0-0 at half-time, only for Winsor to score through Alex Sellwood in the second half to win the cup, writes Marlon Aylring-Allen.

Winsor United also won the Hampshire F.A. Junior 'B' final, sponsored by Trophies4U.

Again, another 1-0 victory saw them win the final over Nursling, when the two teams were level 0-0 at half time. The goal was scored by Alex Clark.

In the A.J Miller Trophy final, AFC West End were victorious over Boyatt Wood Wanderers.

West End won a penalty and Craig Harding converted it to put them 1-0 up.

Boyatt Wood equalised when Anthony Gregory was played in, and he delicately lifted the ball over the goalkeeper to score his first goal of the season.

The second half saw Boyatt dominate possession, but West End were playing on the counter-attack and Craig Harding got his second when he headed in from a corner.

In the Premier Division, Hamble Roll Call beat Bush Hill 8-2.

It was Pete Munday (Senior's) last game for Bush Hill and he went out with a goal, but sadly for them it wasn't enough to see them overcome a rampant Hamble Roll Call side who scored eight times.

A.F.C. Portsmouth and A.F.C. Velmore met in the Junior Division 1, where



Sunday league action

Portsmouth were victorious 4-2, despite being behind at half time.

The match saw six different scorers and three Portsmouth players go to casualty due to cuts to their heads.

A.F.C. Riverside (Sunday) beat Lokomotiv Eastleigh 2-0, thanks to a goal either side of half time. Mike Collins and Rob Crook scored. Lokomotiv

Eastleigh are second in the table.

There were two games in the Junior Division 3, as A.F.C. Waterside and Durley beat Bitterne Ducks and Portside respectively.

They were both high scoring games, with A.F.C. Waterside defeating Bitterne Ducks 6-5.

Nathan Gray got four goals for Wa-

terside, who went on to win, despite being down 4-1 at half time.

Michael Thomas also got four goals for Bitterne Ducks. A.F.C. Waterside are top of the table, whilst Bitterne Ducks are third.

Durley won 5-4 away to Portside. Nathan Baker got a hat-trick for Portside, but it wasn't enough.

Fawley battle to stay top

FAWLEY R.B.L. Reserves drew 2-2 with Lyndhurst J.F.C. in the Junior Division 4 to remain top of the table.

Hedge End City were 5-0 winners over Burridge A.F.C., thanks to Ryan Seiver (2), John Hall, Dan Brooks and Matt Dipper scoring the goals. Burridge only have one point to their name thus far.

Hunters Inn were 3-2 winners over Sholing Monks, with five different goal scorers in the game. Hunters Inn climb to second.

J.S.C. were 6-1 winners over Abbotswood in the Junior Division 5, however Abbotswood had to play 40 minutes of the game with 10 men due to an injury. Abbotswood are bottom of the table with six points and a goal difference of -49.

In Junior Division 6, Bishops Waltham Dynamos scored six goals as they beat F.C. Woolston 6-2. Woolston remain bottom.

Testwood Tornadoes lost 3-0 to Chamberlayne Athletic Reserves. Richard Brown, Justyn Penfold and Ben Colborne scored the goals. Both sides remain midtable.

● Arsene Wenger has called for a sense of perspective as Arsenal's supporters prepare to protest.

Black Scarf Movement, RedAction and the Arsenal Supporters Trust want those present at the Emirates Stadium to raise placards reading: "Time for change. Arsenal is stale, fresh approach needed."

Wenger believes certain critics of the team are trying to "manipulate" supporters to suit their own agenda, but shares the general frustration among Gunners supporters at Arsenal's latest failure to win the league.

However, the 66-year-old thinks the club's overall "evolution" since their move from Highbury has wrongly been overlooked.

"We have to put things a little bit into perspective and see how the club's evolution has gone over the years," Wenger said.

"It was not always easy. The quality of the work we've done at the club has got us into a strong position where expectations are very high, but we are frustrated when we don't get what we want.

"When you build a stadium, we had five to seven difficult financial years where we had to pay back - we had (to qualify) for the Champions League three years out of five and have an average (gate) of 54,000 people (to finance the new stadium). We didn't know we would be capable of that.

"We had to sell our best players every year to survive, but we didn't do three years out of five in the Champions League. We did five out of five. But during that time, it was very difficult."

New sponsorship deal will help club in its development



SWFC manager Fran Alonso with some of his players in their new kit sponsored by Stratland Estates

SOUTHAMPTON Women's Football Club (SWFC) are celebrating after their winning season has been capped with a lucrative new sponsorship deal from Romsey based property developer Stratland Estates.

The new deal includes a new kit and training gear and will benefit both players and supporters with the provision of much needed investment in the club's equipment, players and facilities.

Established in 1971, SWFC has a long and proud history as both the oldest and most successful women's team in Southampton, having won the FA Women's Cup eight times between 1971 and 1982.

However, more recently it has been a challenge to keep the club going, as

SWFC player and assistant 1st team coach, Lauren Houck, explains: "In recent seasons we have been fighting to remain in the Southern Region League as we have struggled to muster 11 players each week. However, since the arrival of our new manager Fran Alonso, who is also the first team technical support coach at Southampton FC, the Club has completely transformed."

"We have enjoyed a great run of form, which has been rewarded with promotion to SRWFL Premier Division. Having won the league title we still have a League Cup final to be played in May. We are now a completely renovated club with a great set up. We now have two teams and a Girls Development Centre with further plans to introduce a development squad as well as an U-16's team to provide a clear pathway for our young girls and help the future of the

club and women's football in the community."

First team manager Fran Alonso, said: "Since I joined we have undertaken a complete restructuring of the club, we implemented new values and our own playing style and philosophy. We have recruited many volunteers that make our team something very special. As a result the team is having a fantastic season and we are all very proud of what we have achieved so far."

"Women's football continues to grow in popularity and we are seeing this with the support we are getting each week. The success that we have had this season is obviously attracting wider support from the community, which is gratefully received and is much needed to sustain the future of the club."

"We are delighted to have Stratland Estates onboard as our major spon-

sor. These are very exciting times at the club and we look forward to enjoying a long-standing relationship with them as we continue to build momentum with this squad."

Land and development director at Stratland Estates, Andy Wright, said: "We are always looking at ways in which to engage with the local community and connecting through sport is a great way to do this."

"SWFC has made great strides this year under the new management structure and is looking to push on this year to achieve bigger and better things. We hope that with the support of Stratland they can continue this great run of results."

● For further information on how to get involved with Southampton Women's FC call 07517 485795 email Sotonwfc@gmail.com or visit www.southamptonwfc.co.uk

Adams aims for big year

From page 41

"If Tom is selected in the first game, which I think he will be, then fingers crossed he can have a bit of luck and he can have a really, really good year for us."

With the increase in players knocking at the first-team door, Adams is eyeing a return to the sort of prolific form that saw him score more than 1,200 runs during his side's Division Two winning season two years ago.

"I'll continue for as long as I'm able to help the squad move forward – and if I pick up my form," he said.

"Last year was a disappointment in that sense. Hopefully I can still contribute in all forms. I missed a bit of T20 last year and I'd like to force my way back into that reckoning."

"I certainly don't want to stand in the way of guys coming through. The competition for places is good. We've got some very young players. If they're ready to go, and performing better than me, then that will be something I'll have to consider down the line. But, fingers crossed, I've still got something to offer."

Turning his thoughts back to the here and now, Adams is determined that his side avoid their early season malaise of 2015, instead using the momentum of last year's sprint for the line to propel them on to a flying start this term.

Speaking at the county's pre-season press day, he said: "You want to start well. When you do start winning games it breeds belief. It's infectious. People talk about momentum and it's an unknown quantity."

"But it does have an effect. We managed to get on a roll at the end of last year, whereas we stalled in the blocks at the start of the season."

"If we can get an early win, or put in a strong early performance, that will really help us. But I do think we're more resilient following the experience of last year."

"So if things don't work out quite as we hope, then I believe we have the character to turn things around quicker than we did last year – but hopefully it doesn't come to that."



Jimmy Adams

SATURDAY'S FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

Barclays Premier League

	L	Norwich	L				
Arsenal	HT L-L						
Everton	2	AFC Bournemouth	1				
Cleverley 7 Baines 64		Pugh 9					
HT 1-1		Att 38,345					
Newcastle	1	Crystal P	0				
Howard 58							
HT 0-0							
Stoke	1	Sunderland	1				
Arnautovic 50		Defoe 90 pen					
HT 0-0		Att 27,667					
Watford	3	A. Villa	2				
Abdi 45 Deeney 90+		Clark 28 Avey 48					
HT 1-1		Att 20,653					
W.B.A.	0	West Ham	3				
Kouyate 34 Noble 45,79							
HT 0-2		Att 25,031					
HOME	AWAY	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Leicester 35 11 6 1 32 17	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Tottenham 35 10 6 2 34 13	9 6 2 31 13 69	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Man City 35 12 5 4 15 49	7 6 4 21 15 64	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Arsenal 35 10 4 3 26 11	8 6 4 32 23 64	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
West Ham 35 8 7 2 30 20	7 7 4 30 23 59	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Man Utd 34 11 4 2 23 7	6 4 7 19 23 59	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Liverpool 34 7 7 3 30 21	8 3 6 28 24 55	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
SAINTS 35 9 3 5 31 19	6 6 6 18 18 20	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Stoke 36 7 4 7 20 23	6 5 7 18 29 48	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Chelsea 34 5 7 4 25 27	7 4 6 24 19 47	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Everton 35 10 5 8 32 30	5 9 3 23 18 44	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Watford 35 6 5 7 18 17	6 9 7 23 25 44	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
W.B.A. 36 6 5 8 19 25	7 7 13 21 41	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Bournemouth 36 5 4 9 22 33	6 4 8 21 30 41	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Swansea 35 7 5 5 16 18	3 5 10 18 31 40	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Crystal P 36 5 3 10 17 22	5 6 7 19 24 39	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Newcastle 36 6 7 5 27 23	2 2 14 12 41 33	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Sunderland 35 4 6 7 17 18	3 5 10 23 40 32	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
Norwich 34 5 5 7 22 27	3 2 12 13 33 31	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt
A. Villa 36 2 4 12 14 35	1 3 14 13 37 16	11 4 2 31 16 76	W	D	L	F	Pt

SkyBet Championship

Bolton	1	Hull	0				
Dobbie 65							
HT 0-0		Att 14,366					
Brentford	3	Fulham	0				
Saunders 5							
Hogan 7,40							
HT 3-0							
Bristol C	4	Huddersfield	0				
Kodjia 45,67							
Bryan 64							
Tomlin 77							
HT 1-0							
Ipswich	3	M K Dons	2				
McGoldrick 16							
Triman 68							
Vandy 90							
HT 1-1							
Leeds Utd	1	Charlton	2				
Bamba 71							
Gudmundsson 39							
Lookman 49							
Att 25,458							
HT 0-1							
Notts For	1	Wolves	1				
Gardner 68							
HT 0-0							
Reading	1	Preston	2				
Quinn 86							
HT 0-0							
Rotherham	0	Blackburn	1				
Duffy 6							
Att 11,035							
HT 0-1							
Sheff Wed	3	Cardiff	0				
Hooper 64,90							
Peltier 75,99							
HT 0-0							
Att 31,843							
HOME	AWAY	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Middlesb 45 16 4 2 33 7	10 6 7 29 23 88	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Burnley 44 14 6 2 37 14	10 9 3 31 21 81	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brighton 44 15 4 3 39 17	9 11 2 31 23 87	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hull 45 14 7 1 42 11	9 4 10 22 23 80	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Derby City 44 12 7 3 37 15	9 7 6 28 26 87	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Sheff Wed 45 13 8 2 42 17	6 9 7 23 25 74	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Cardiff 45 12 8 2 32 19	5 8 10 23 31 67	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
IPswich 45 9 8 6 28 24	8 7 7 24 27 66	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Birmingham 45 9 5 9 27 27	7 9 6 25 21 62	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brentford 45 10 4 9 33 30	8 4 10 34 36 62	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Preston 45 7 9 6 20 20	8 7 8 24 24 61	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Leeds Utd 45 7 8 8 23 28	7 8 7 20 29 58	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Q.P.R. 44 9 9 4 36 25	4 9 9 17 28 57	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Wolves 45 6 10 6 24 25	7 6 10 27 32 55	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Blackburn 45 7 8 7 26 22	5 8 10 17 23 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Reading 45 8 9 6 25 20	5 4 13 26 36 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Notts For 45 7 8 8 25 26	5 8 9 16 20 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bristol C 45 7 7 9 34 34	6 6 10 20 36 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Huddersfield 45 7 6 9 32 28	6 6 11 26 37 51	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Rotherham 45 8 6 9 31 34	5 4 13 21 32 49	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Fulham 45 7 5 10 35 36	4 10 9 30 43 48	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Charlton 45 5 8 9 23 32	4 5 14 17 45 40	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
M K Dons 45 7 3 12 20 35	2 9 18 32 39	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bolton 45 5 11 7 24 26	0 4 18 17 54 30	W	D	L	F	A	Pt

SkyBet League One

Barnsley	2	Colchester	2				
Fletcher 57,80							
Moncur 42							
Lapetic 90							
Att 12,071							
HT 0-1							
Blackpool	0	Wigan	4				
Wildschut 70,29							
Grigg 85							
Att 9,226							
HT 0-0							
Burton Albion	2	Gillingham	1				
Akins 44							
Naylor 90							
HT 1-0							
McDonald 49							
Att 5,388							
HOME	AWAY	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Middlesb 45 16 4 2 33 7	10 6 7 29 23 88	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Burnley 44 14 6 2 37 14	10 9 3 31 21 81	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brighton 44 15 4 3 39 17	9 11 2 31 23 87	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hull 45 14 7 1 42 11	9 4 10 22 23 80	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Derby City 44 12 7 3 37 15	9 7 6 28 26 87	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Sheff Wed 45 13 8 2 42 17	6 9 7 23 25 74	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Cardiff 45 12 8 2 32 19	5 8 10 23 31 67	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
IPswich 45 9 8 6 28 24	8 7 7 24 27 66	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Birmingham 45 9 5 9 27 27	7 9 6 25 21 62	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Brentford 45 10 4 9 33 30	8 4 10 34 36 62	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Preston 45 7 9 6 20 20	8 7 8 24 24 61	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Leeds Utd 45 7 8 8 23 28	7 8 7 20 29 58	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Q.P.R. 44 9 9 4 36 25	4 9 9 17 28 57	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Wolves 45 6 10 6 24 25	7 6 10 27 32 55	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Blackburn 45 7 8 7 26 22	5 8 10 17 23 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Reading 45 8 9 6 25 20	5 4 13 26 36 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Notts For 45 7 8 8 25 26	5 8 9 16 20 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bristol C 45 7 7 9 34 34	6 6 10 20 36 52	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Huddersfield 45 7 6 9 32 28	6 6 11 26 37 51	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Rotherham 45 8 6 9 31 34	5 4 13 21 32 49	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Fulham 45 7 5 10 35 36	4 10 9 30 43 48	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Charlton 45 5 8 9 23 32	4 5 14 17 45 40	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
M K Dons 45 7 3 12 20 35	2 9 18 32 39	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bolton 45 5 11 7 24 26	0 4 18 17 54 30	W	D	L	F	A	Pt

POOL'S CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	30	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
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Chesterfield

3 0 Bury 0

O'Shea 29 pen, Novak 45

Gardner 71

HT 2-0 Att 7,232

Coventry

3 0 Sheff Utd 1

Fortune 44

Rose 8, Lameiras 87

HT 1-1 Att 3,045

Crewe

3 0 Doncaster L

Ainley 43, Haber 57

HT 1-1 Att 4,403

Millwall

3 0 Oldham 0

Lund 67

HT 1-2 Att 2,806

Southend

3 0 Bradford 1

Evans 12

HT 0-1 Att 8,571

Scunthorpe



RTSFC and Saints Foundation Coaching Academy

What can the course lead to?

Students who successfully complete the course are guaranteed an interview for a sports coach position with the Saints Foundation. Students may also choose to pursue other opportunities in the sports coaching industry, or progress onto higher education.

What are the entry requirements?

To join the course you need:

- 5 GCSE's at grade C or above, including English and Maths
- An interest in coaching, teaching or leading physical activities

How can I apply?

There are only 20 spaces available on the course, so don't delay in applying – visit www.richardtaunton.ac.uk or click the QR code below to apply online!



RICHARD TAUNTON
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

02380 511811
richardtaunton.ac.uk
HILL LANE SOUTHAMPTON SO15 5RL
www.saintsfoundation.co.uk





Saints
FOUNDATION
INSPIRES • SUPPORTS • DELIVERS



RTSFC and Saints Foundation Coaching Academy

Richard Taunton Sixth Form College and the Saints Foundation (the official charity of Southampton FC) are working together to deliver the first Coaching Academy in Southampton. This full time, 2-year course is aimed at 16-19 year olds who want to work in the sports coaching industry.

What does the course involve?

The course combines academic studies and sports coaching qualifications with invaluable practical coaching experience.

The course is divided into 2 elements:

- Spending time at RTSFC, learning about sports coaching and fitness
- Spending time on work placement with the Saints Foundation, supporting the delivery of multi-sport sessions in the community

What qualifications will you gain?

- BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Sports Development, Coaching and Fitness (equivalent to 2 A Levels)
- FA Junior Football Leaders award
- FA Level 1 and Level 2 award in Coaching Football
- FA Level 2 award in Leadership in Football
- 1st4Sport Level 2 award in Multi-Skills Development in Sport



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